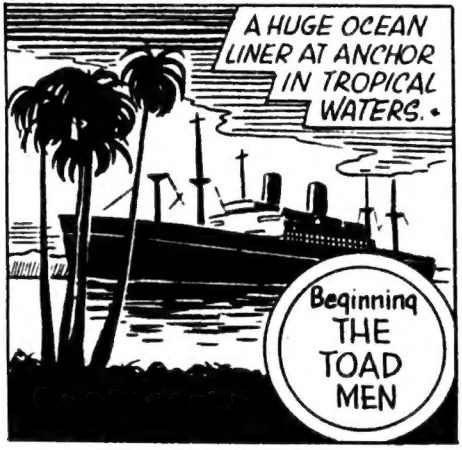
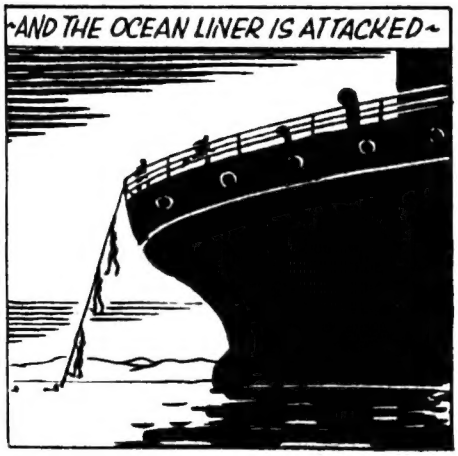

A HUGE OCEAN LINER AT ANCHOR IN TROPICAL WATERS.
Beginning THE TOAD MEN

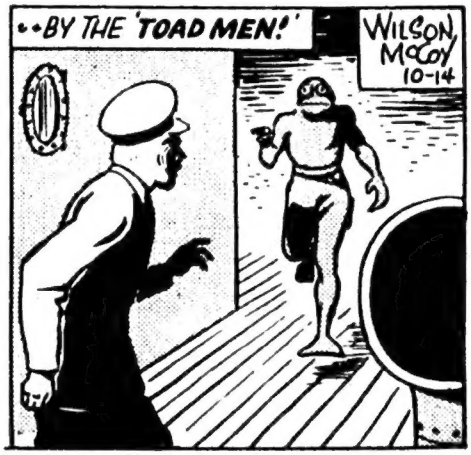
A GALA NIGHT ABOARD THE SHIP--A WONDERFUL TIME IS HAD BY ALL--

OUT IN THE DARK SEA, THERE ARE WATCHERS--
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

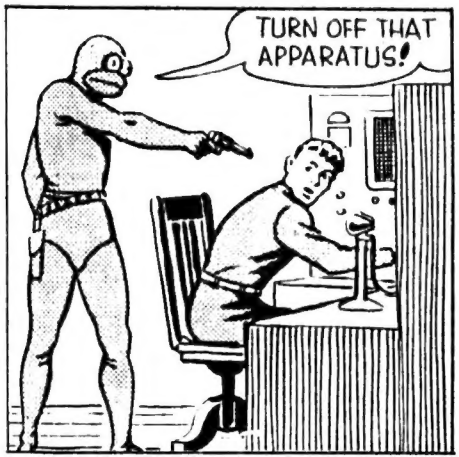
WHAT'S UP?
NOW!
WILSON McCOY 10-13

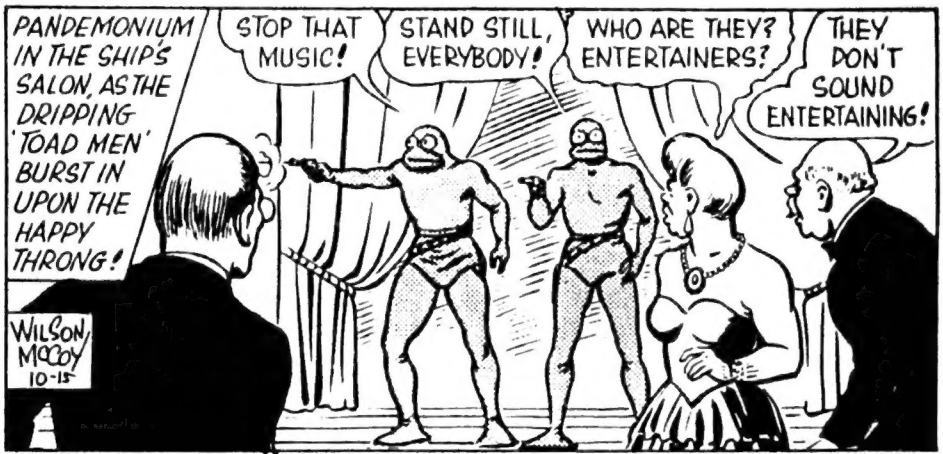
NIGHT ON THE TROPICAL SEA--


--AND THE OCEAN LINER IS ATTACKED--


--BY THE 'TOAD MEN!'
WILSON McCOY 10-14

NIGHT, ON THE OCEAN LINER--


TURN OFF THAT APPARATUS!

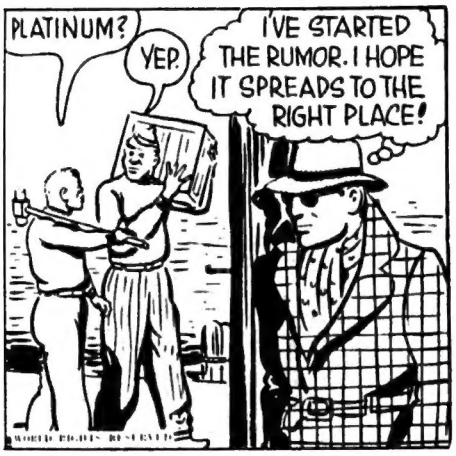

PANDEMONIUM IN THE SHIP'S SALON, AS THE DRIPPING 'TOAD MEN' BURST IN UPON THE HAPPY THRONG!
STOP THAT MUSIC!
STAND STILL, EVERYBODY!
WHO ARE THEY? ENTERTAINERS?
THEY DON'T SOUND ENTERTAINING!
WILSON McCOY 10-15

ALL THE JEWELRY INTO THE SACK!
THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR THAT CHICKEN FEED IN THE BALLROOM! WE WANT THE GOLD SHIPMENT IN YOUR VAULT, CAPTAIN!
Z!!@G!
WILSON MCCOY 10-16
PIRACY! THAT'S WHAT IT IS! BY A BUNCH OF BLASTED 'TOAD MEN'! RADIO TO SHORE
WE CAN'T, SIR. THEY SMASHED THE RADIO.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
~Newspaper~
LUXURY LINER ROBBED AT SEA BY STRANGE PIRATES CALLED "TOAD MEN" BY IRATE CAPTAIN
ROB GUESTS AND VAULT: SHIP IN PORT, INQUIRY SET.
IS THIS WHERE THAT PIRACY INQUIRY IS BEING HELD?
YEP. RIGHT UPSTAIRS.
BUREAU of SHIPPING
NOW, CAPTAIN, TELL THE BOARD YOUR STORY~
IT WAS ABOUT 10 O'CLOCK AT NIGHT. THERE WAS A DANCE ABOARD, AND~~
THE PHANTOM, ANCIENT FOE OF PIRATES!
NOT MANY OF THE PUBLIC COME TO THESE THINGS. YOU INTERESTED IN SHIPS?
NO. IN PIRATES.
WILSON MCCOY 10-17
CAPTAIN, HOW DID THESE 'TOAD-MEN' PIRATES KNOW ABOUT YOUR SECRET GOLD SHIPMENT?
WORD GETS AROUND THE DOCKS~
WHERE COULD THEY HAVE HEADED?
ANYWHERE ALONG THAT 6000-MILE COASTLINE. THEY HAD POWERFUL MOTORBOATS~~
ANY IDEA WHAT SHIP THEY'LL RAID NEXT?
HUH? HOW COULD I~~ OR ANYONE ELSE~ ANSWER SUCH A FOOL QUESTION?
NOT A FOOL QUESTION~ BUT AN INTERESTING ONE. WE MAY FIND THE ANSWER ON THE DOCKS, DEVIL!
WILSON MCCOY 10-18

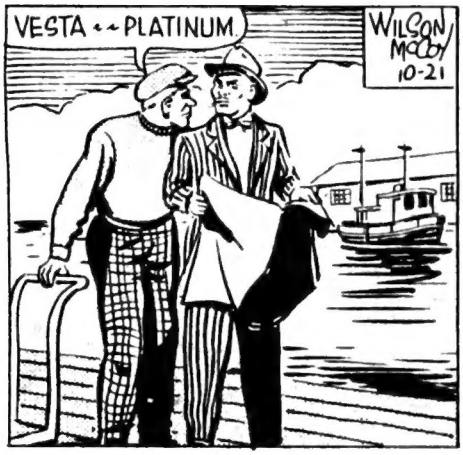
THE 'TOADMEN' PIRATES KNEW ABOUT THE SECRET GOLD SHIPMENT. THEY MUST HAVE INFORMERS ON THE DOCK.

THE VESTA'S SAILING TOMORROW. I HEAR SHE'S CARRYING A LOAD OF PLATINUM.
YOU DON'T SAY.
VESTA

HEARD THE VESTA'S CARRYING PLATINUM
NO KIDDING!
WILSON McCOY 10-20

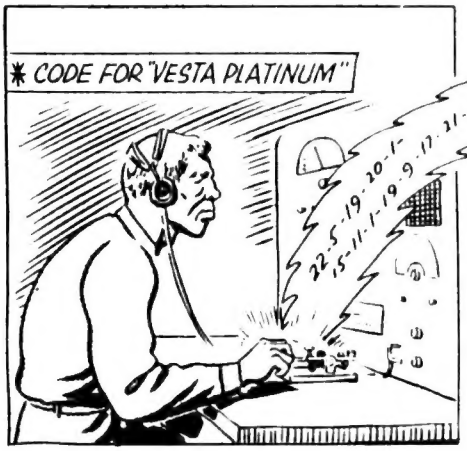

PLATINUM?
YEP.
I'VE STARTED THE RUMOR. I HOPE IT SPREADS TO THE RIGHT PLACE!

WHO TOLD YOU THE VESTA'S CARRYING PLATINUM?
I GOT IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY, PAL.


VESTA - - PLATINUM
WILSON McCOY 10-21

SEND A MESSAGE! VESTA - PLATINUM!
WOW!

LET'S HOPE THE RUMOR WE STARTED GETS TO THE 'TOADMEN' PIRATES, DEVIL. I SOMEHOW THINK IT WILL!
VESTA


* CODE FOR "VESTA PLATINUM"
22-5-19-20-1-
15-11-1-19-9-17-21-8

- - THRU THE AIR, TO AN ANTENNA ON A LONELY MID-OCEAN ROCKY REEF!
22-5-19-20-1-
15-11-1-19-9-17-21-8
WILSON McCOY 10-22

WHERE CAN I FIND THE CAPTAIN?
IN HIS CABIN, "A" DECK, SIR

CAPTAIN, I BELIEVE THE "TOADMEN" PIRATES WILL ATTACK THIS SHIP.
WHAT? ARE YOU MAD? WHO ARE YOU?

I BELIEVE THE PIRATES KNOWN AS THE 'TOADMEN' WILL ATTACK THIS SHIP DURING YOUR CRUISE.
HOW CAN YOU KNOW THAT?

THERE'S A RUMOR THAT YOUR SHIP IS CARRING A LOAD OF PLATINUM.
BUT-WE'RE NOT! HOW COULD SUCH A RUMOR START?

I STARTED THE RUMOR-HOPING IT'LL REACH THE PIRATES.
OH, I SEE-HOW INTERESTING-HOW CLEVER-

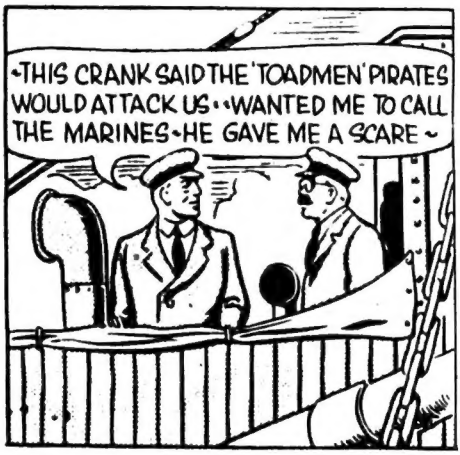
LET'S GO OUT ON DECK-AND DISCUSS THIS-
A MADMAN? I'VE GOT TO GET HIM OFF THE SHIP.
WILSON McCOY 10-23

PLANT A COMPANY OF MARINES DRESSED AS CIVILIANS AMONG THE PASSENGERS-
YES, YES, CLEVER-
WHERE IS EVERYONE!
OH, STEWARD!

GET THIS CRANK OFF THE SHIP BEFORE I LOSE MY MIND!
ER-YES, CAPTAIN.

BUT THE PHANTOM'S JUNGLE-TRAINED EARS ARE SHARP--
HE DOESN'T BELIEVE ME.
WILSON McCOY 10-24

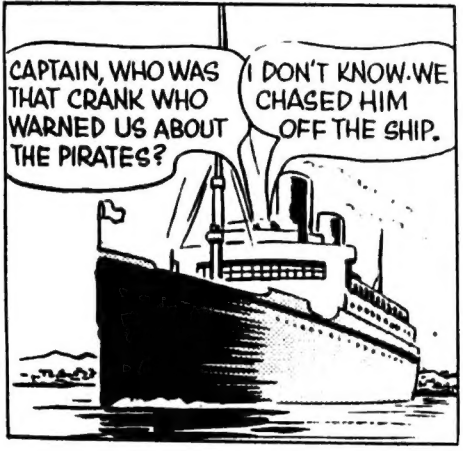
SHALL I CHASE HIM?
NO, HE'S HARMLESS, BUT SEE THAT HE DOESN'T COME ABOARD AGAIN.


-THIS CRANK SAID THE 'TOADMEN' PIRATES WOULD ATTACK US--WANTED ME TO CALL THE MARINES-HE GAVE ME A SCARE-

I'VE GOT TO GET BACK ON THE SHIP-- AND SOMEHOW CONVINCE THE CAPTAIN! BESIDES-WE HAVE A CABIN--

WE CAN HIDE IN THE HOLD--UNTIL THE SHIP TAKES OFF-- NOW NO ONE'S LOOKING--

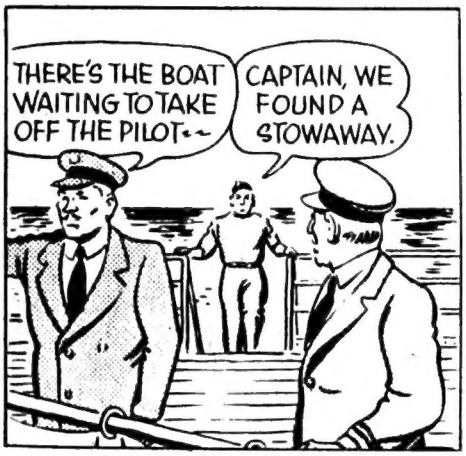
WILSON McCOY 10-25


CAPTAIN, WHO WAS THAT CRANK WHO WARNED US ABOUT THE PIRATES?
I DON'T KNOW. WE CHASED HIM OFF THE SHIP.

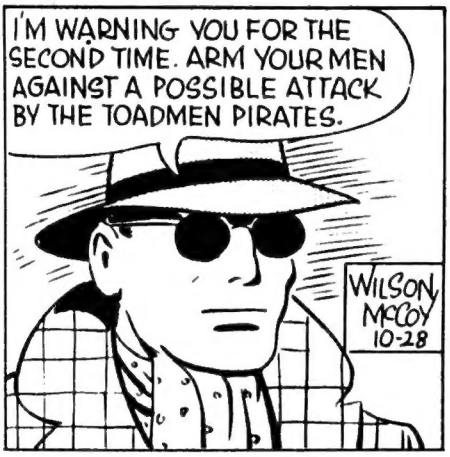
AND DOWN IN THE SHIP'S HOLD...
SHIP'S MOVING. TIME TO SHOW MYSELF, DEVIL.

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?
NOTHING. I'M A STOWAWAY.

A STOWAWAY? I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOU TO THE CAPTAIN!
HE'S JUST THE MAN I WANT TO SEE.
WILSON McCOY 10-27


THERE'S THE BOAT WAITING TO TAKE OFF THE PILOT...
CAPTAIN, WE FOUND A STOWAWAY.

YOU AGAIN! HOW'D YOU GET BACK ON THIS SHIP?
NEVER MIND HOW. CAPTAIN, I'M NOT A CRANK AS YOU THINK.


I'M WARNING YOU FOR THE SECOND TIME. ARM YOUR MEN AGAINST A POSSIBLE ATTACK BY THE TOADMEN PIRATES.
WILSON McCOY 10-28

GET THIS MANIAC OFF MY SHIP! THROW HIM OVERBOARD!
EASY, SIR. WE CAN SEND HIM BACK WITH THE PILOT BOAT.
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PILOT, I'M SENDING THIS PRISONER BACK WITH YOU. HAVE THE POLICE ON SHORE QUESTION HIM.
YES, SIR.

CAPTAIN, PLEASE LISTEN TO ME... IT'S NO JOKE ABOUT THE TOADMEN PIRATES.

THE HARBOR PILOT BOAT COMES ALONGSIDE THE LINER...

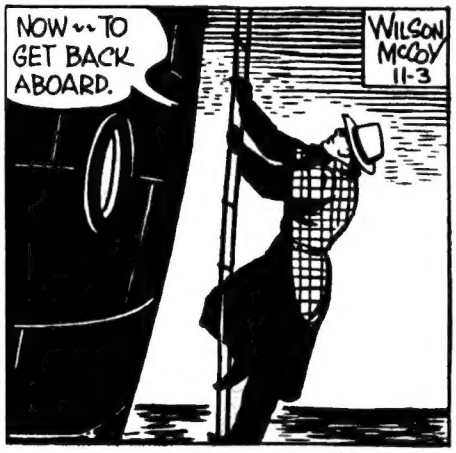
HE WON'T LISTEN TO ME! WHAT CAN I DO NOW?
WILSON McCOY 10-29

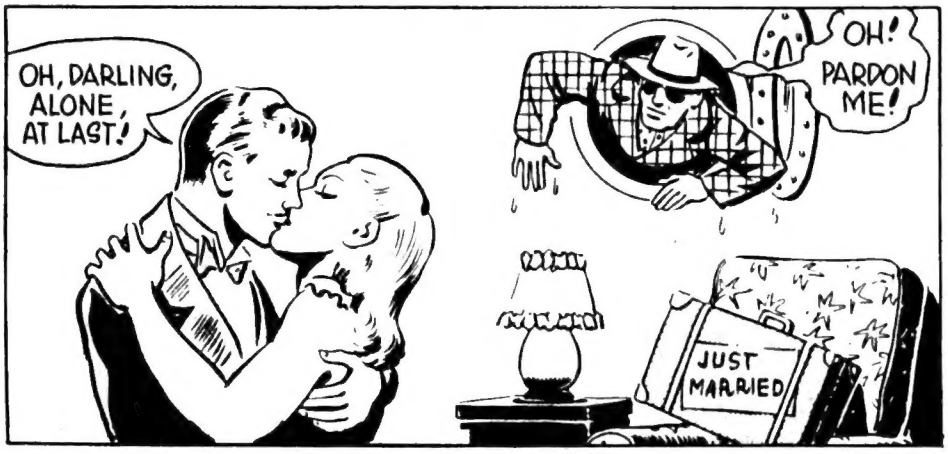
REMEMBER, PILOT: HAVE THE MAN ARRESTED AS SOON AS YOU REACH SHORE.
AYE, CAPTAIN.
WHERE'S THE PRISONER WE'RE SUPPOSED TO ARREST? IS THAT HIM COMING NOW?
!?
THIS MAN MUST BE NEW ~ THINKS I'M THE PILOT
YES, THAT'S THE PRISONER-- BE CAREFUL-
--HE'S DANGEROUS!
HEY-- GLUB--
WILSON McCOY 10-30
WHAT'LL WE DO WITH HIM?
HOLD HIM TIGHT! HE'S RAVING--
GLUB! GLUB!
AND AS THE PILOT BOAT MOVES AWAY FROM THE SHIP--
WILSON McCOY 10-31
HELP ME WITH HIM! HE'S A HANDFUL! HEY-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AWAY! GOOD-BYE-
MADE IT!
HEY, MAC. WHAT'S GOIN' ON OUT THERE?
THIS GUY CLAIMS HE'S THE PILOT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO PICK UP!
BUT THIS IS THE PILOT!
BUT-BUT THEN WHO WAS THE OTHER GUY? WAS HE THE PRISONER?
WILSON McCOY 11-1
COPR 1932, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I AM THE HARBOR PILOT. THE OTHER MAN WAS THE PRISONER.
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?

HE JUMPED OVERBOARD. THEN I LOST SIGHT OF HIM...
I WAS TOO BUSY TO SEE WHERE HE WENT.

TOO LATE TO REACH THE SHIP NOW. WE'LL RADIO THEM THAT WE LOST THE PRISONER...OVERBOARD. HE'S A GONER...
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.


NOW...TO GET BACK ABOARD.
WILSON McCOY 11-3


OH, DARLING, ALONE, AT LAST!
OH! PARDON ME!
JUST MARRIED

I WAS LOOKING FOR MY CABIN. I GOT INTO THE WRONG ONE BY MISTAKE!

?
?
WILSON McCOY 11-4

SHH, DEVIL. THINK I'D FORGOTTEN YOU? FOLLOW ME.

A RADIO MESSAGE FROM THE PILOT BOAT, CAPTAIN. THEY LOST THE PRISONER. HE JUMPED OVERBOARD
POOR FELLOW.

HE MUST HAVE BEEN OUT OF HIS MIND, THE WAY HE KEPT RAVING ABOUT THE TOADMEN PIRATES.
A SAD CASE.
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

I GUESS HE MEANT WELL.
AT ANY RATE, WE'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN.
WILSON McCOY 11-5
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

LUCKY I RESERVED A CABIN FOR US, DEVIL. YOU'LL HAVE TO BE QUIET--

-BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE CABIN WITH ME. I'LL BET YOU'RE HUNGRY, TOO. I'LL PHONE FOR FOOD.

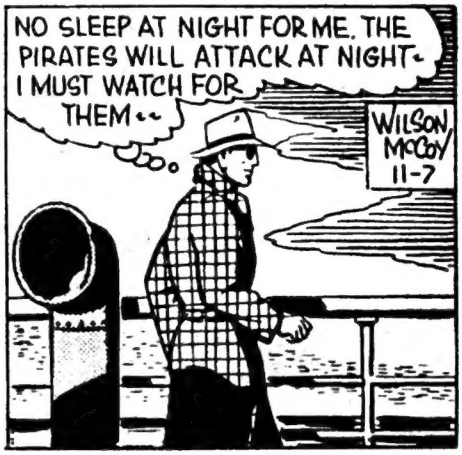
LEAVE THE TRAY BY THE DOOR, STEWARD.
7
YES, SIR. ????

???? A MAN CAN BE HUNGRY ENOUGH TO WANT TWO STEAKS-- BUT WHY ORDER ONE OF THEM RAW?
7
WILSON McCOY 11-6

HOW ABOUT THAT PASSENGER IN CABIN 7 ? HE SURE IS A MYSTERY.
NEVER COMES OUT EXCEPT AT NIGHT--
7

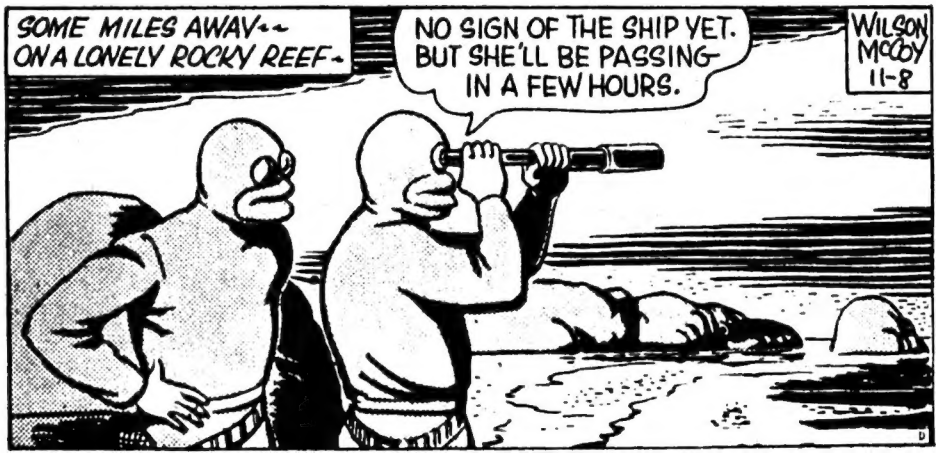
--AND THEN ONLY WALKS ON THE DARK PART OF THE DECK.
HE'S ON THE PASSENGER LIST. "MR. WALKER."*
* MR. WALKER FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

NOBODY'S HAD A GOOD LOOK AT HIM-EVERYBODY'S WONDERING
BEAT IT. HERE HE COMES NOW.


NO SLEEP AT NIGHT FOR ME. THE PIRATES WILL ATTACK AT NIGHT- I MUST WATCH FOR THEM--
WILSON McCOY 11-7

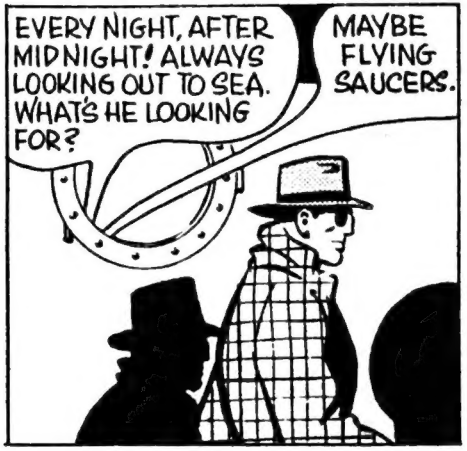
MAYBE I'M WRONG ABOUT THIS. MAYBE THE TOADMEN PIRATES WON'T ATTACK THIS SHIP--THEY MIGHT BE AFTER ANOTHER SHIP.

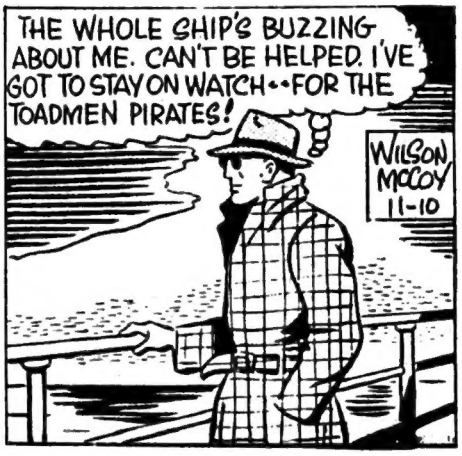
IF SO-I'VE WASTED ALL THIS TIME-BUT I CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE-I'LL HAVE TO KEEP WATCH.


SOME MILES AWAY-- ON A LONELY ROCKY REEF-
NO SIGN OF THE SHIP YET. BUT SHE'LL BE PASSING IN A FEW HOURS.
WILSON McCOY 11-8

THERE HE GOES AGAIN~THE MYSTERY MAN IN CABIN 7~

THEY SAY HE ALLOWS NO ONE IN HIS CABIN~
HE ONLY COMES OUT AT NIGHT~NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN HIS FACE


EVERY NIGHT, AFTER MIDNIGHT! ALWAYS LOOKING OUT TO SEA. WHAT'S HE LOOKING FOR?
MAYBE FLYING SAUCERS.


THE WHOLE SHIP'S BUZZING ABOUT ME. CAN'T BE HELPED. I'VE GOT TO STAY ON WATCH--FOR THE TOADMEN PIRATES!
WILSON McCOY 11-10

STEWARD, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT MR. WALKER* IN CABIN 7?
*WALKER-FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS
THE MYSTERY MAN, CAPTAIN~

HE COMES OUT ONLY AT NIGHT~NO ONE'S ALLOWED INTO HIS CABIN~~
HE PAID HIS PASSAGE. HE'S ENTITLED TO PRIVACY IF HE WISHES.

THERE HE GOES~ INTO HIS CABIN~
7
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I'VE GOT A PASSKEY. I COULD OPEN THE DOOR "BY MISTAKE"--JUST TO SEE WHAT HE'S GOT IN THERE~~
WILSON McCOY 11-11
DO NOT DISTURB
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

MAYBE HE'S GOT STOLEN LOOT IN THERE --OR A CORPSE! IT'S MY DUTY TO LOOK IN-- HERE GOES~~
7
DO NOT DISTURB

THE CURIOUS STEWARD OPENS THE DOOR AND SEES--
BEG YOUR PARDON --MUST BE THE WRONG CABIN~~ OH~~~!

~A STRANGE AND UNEXPECTED SIGHT! THEN--
WILSON McCOY 11-12

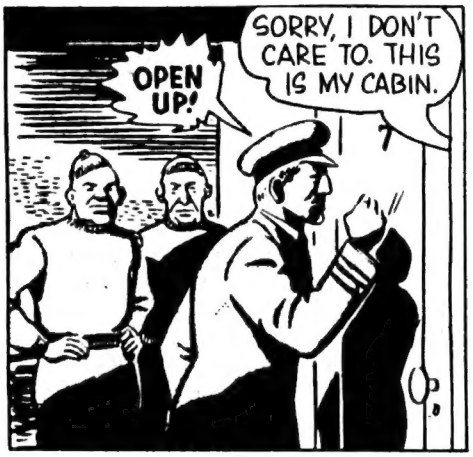
-A GRAY FURY SPRINGS SILENTLY AT HIM!

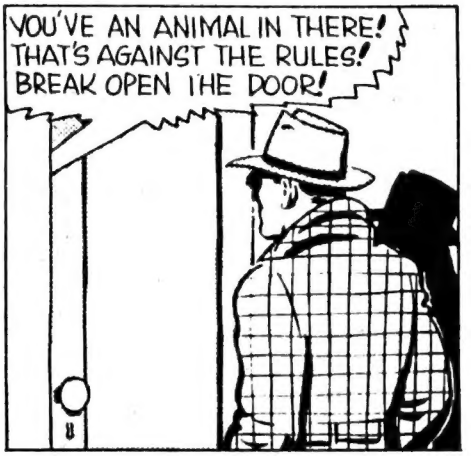
DOWN, DEVIL!
HELP--
7
DO NOT DISTURB

HELP-I'VE BEEN ATTACKED-- BY A WOLF!
WILSON McCOY 11-13
7

STEWARD, WHAT'S ALL THIS?
I SAW THE MAN IN CABIN 7! MASKED--AND DRESSED IN A WEIRD OUTFIT! A MONSTER ATTACKED ME-A WOLF!
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

THAT NOSY STEWARD SPOILED EVERYTHING, DEVIL. WE CAN'T HIDE HERE MUCH LONGER-
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


OPEN UP!
SORRY, I DON'T CARE TO. THIS IS MY CABIN.
7


YOU'VE AN ANIMAL IN THERE! THAT'S AGAINST THE RULES! BREAK OPEN THE DOOR!

THAT'S NOT NECESSARY. I'LL OPEN IT--OOPS--
WILSON McCOY 11-14
7
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

YOU! THE 'CRANK' WITH THE PIRATE STORY! HOW DID YOU GET BACK ON THIS SHIP?
I'M HERE-TO WARN YOU AGAIN, CAPTAIN.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I THREW YOU OFF THE SHIP, AT SHORE! YOU CAME BACK! I SENT YOU OFF WITH THE PILOT SHIP-YOU CAME BACK--WHY?

TO WARN YOU AGAIN! BE PREPARED IN CASE THE TOADMEN PIRATES ATTACK YOUR SHIP!
STOP! I'LL HEAR NO MORE OF THAT NON-SENSE!

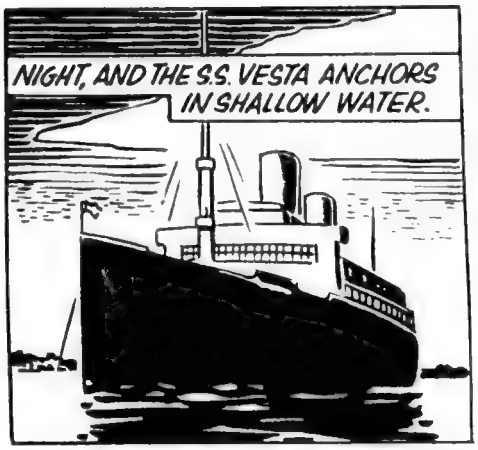
A FEW MILES AWAY, ON A LONELY REEF-- THE MYSTERIOUS TOADMEN PIRATES ARE READY TO ATTACK!
WILSON McCOY 11-15

I'VE BEEN ON WATCH FOR THE TOADMEN PIRATES!
HMM - LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING UNDER THAT COAT!

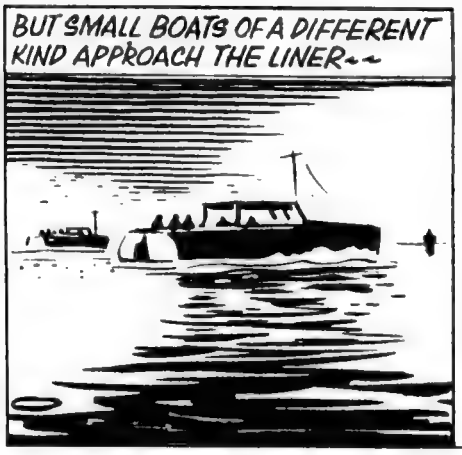
NO. I'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG. I REFUSE TO BE EXAMINED!
*%@!! I'VE AUTHORITY TO HOLD YOU ON SUSPICION!

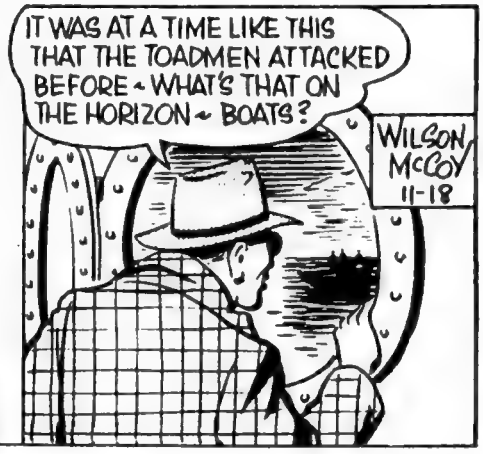
KEEP THAT NUT LOCKED IN HIS CABIN. IF HE TRIES TO ESCAPE, SHOOT HIM!
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

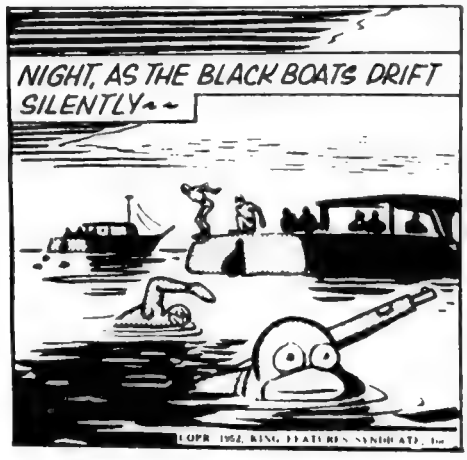
NO MOON. THEY MAY COME TONIGHT - OR TOMORROW! IF THEY DON'T, ALL THIS HAS BEEN WASTED TIME!
WILSON McCOY 11-17
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


NIGHT, AND THE S.S. VESTA ANCHORS IN SHALLOW WATER.

WILL THERE BE PARTIES GOING ASHORE TOMORROW, CAPTAIN?
YES. SMALL BOATS WILL COME FROM THE ISLAND TO TAKE YOU THERE.


BUT SMALL BOATS OF A DIFFERENT KIND APPROACH THE LINER - -


IT WAS AT A TIME LIKE THIS THAT THE TOADMEN ATTACKED BEFORE - WHAT'S THAT ON THE HORIZON - BOATS?
WILSON McCOY 11-18


NIGHT, AS THE BLACK BOATS DRIFT SILENTLY - -
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

THE TOADMEN PIRATES ARE COMING! LET ME OUT!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

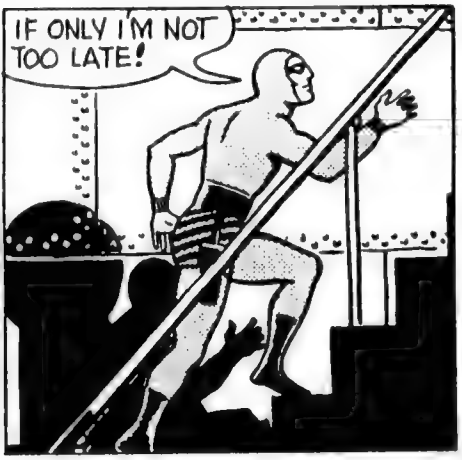
7
SURE, SURE, WE KNOW, PAL. DON'T WORRY. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.

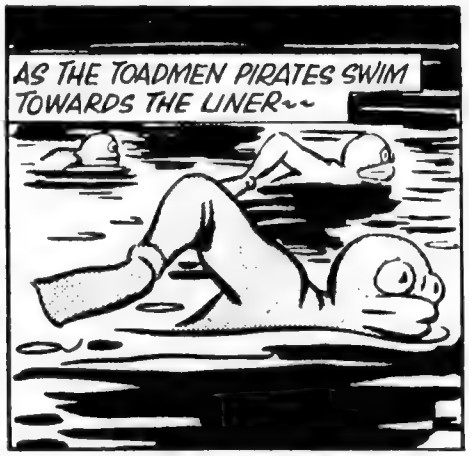
THEY DON'T BELIEVE ME. IT'S TIME FOR ACTION, DEVIL!
WILSON McCOY 11-19

WILL YOU PLEASE OPEN THIS DOOR? THE PIRATES ARE COMING.
RELAX, PAL. WE GOTTA KEEP YOU LOCKED IN THERE.

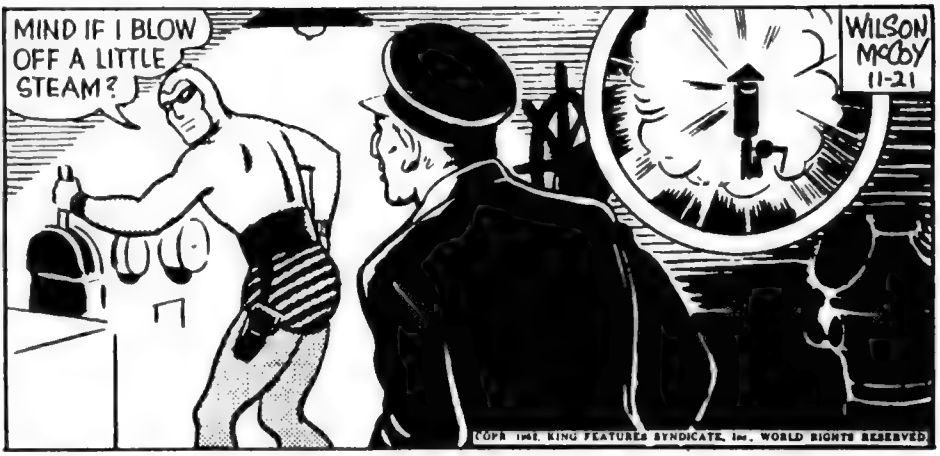
BROKE THE LOCK-!
GOOD NIGHT!

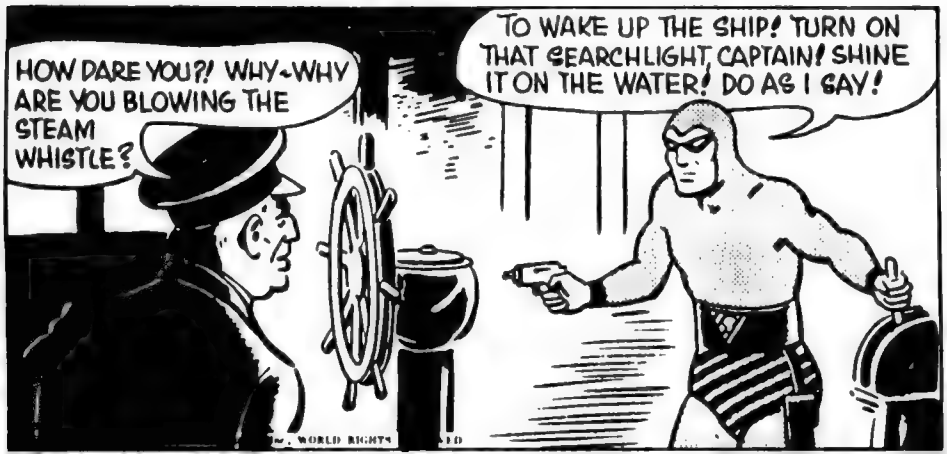
WILSON McCOY 11-20


IF ONLY I'M NOT TOO LATE!

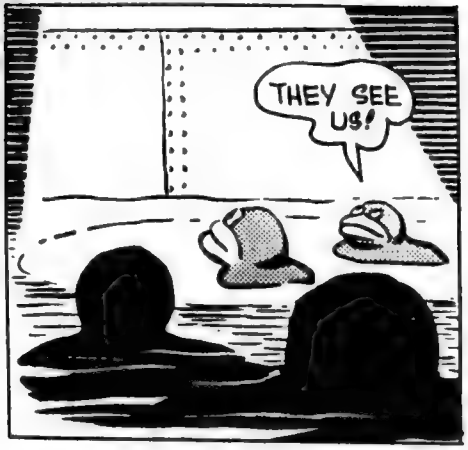

AS THE TOADMEN PIRATES SWIM TOWARDS THE LINER--

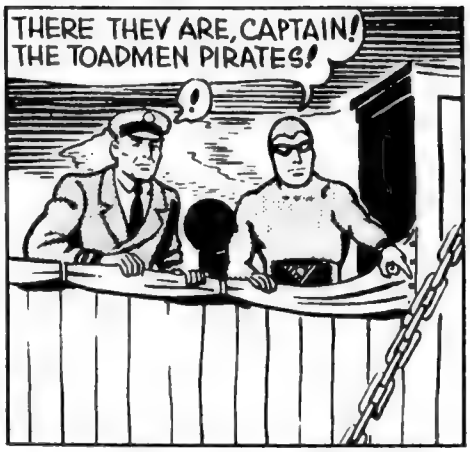
HEY, YOU-YOU CAN'T GO UP THERE--HUH-WHAT--WHO--


MIND IF I BLOW OFF A LITTLE STEAM?
WILSON McCOY 11-21
COPR. 1941, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


HOW DARE YOU?! WHY-WHY ARE YOU BLOWING THE STEAM WHISTLE?
TO WAKE UP THE SHIP! TURN ON THAT SEARCHLIGHT, CAPTAIN! SHINE IT ON THE WATER! DO AS I SAY!

WILSON McCOY 11-22


THEY SEE US!


THERE THEY ARE, CAPTAIN! THE TOADMEN PIRATES!

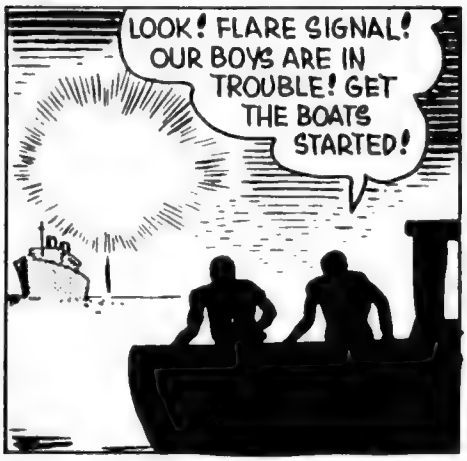
PIRATES! ALL HANDS ON DECK! ISSUE ARMS TO ALL HANDS!
COPR. 1962, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

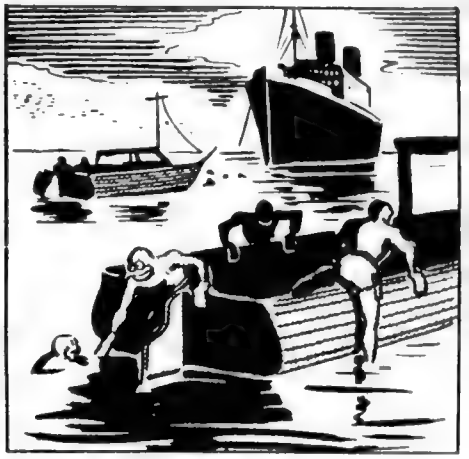
WILSON McCOY 11-24

WHERE ARE THE PIRATES?
DOWN THERE ~~IN THE WATER!

THEY WERE WAITING FOR US! SOMEBODY TIPPED THEM OFF!
SIGNAL OUR BOATS! HURRY!
COPR. 1962, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

WILSON McCOY 11-25
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


LOOK! FLARE SIGNAL! OUR BOYS ARE IN TROUBLE! GET THE BOATS STARTED!



THEY'RE ESCAPING, CAPTAIN! SEND YOUR MEN IN BOATS TO PICK THEM UP!
I CAN'T DO THAT!
WILSON McCOY 11-26

AFTER ALL, THEY HAVEN'T ATTACKED US. THEY COULD CLAIM THEY WERE ONLY SWIMMING!
BUT THEY'RE THE TOAD-MEN PIRATES!
COPR. 1962, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

I'VE NOTHING TO CHASE THEM WITH! MY JOB IS TO SAFEGUARD THIS SHIP.
YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT WE CAN'T LET THEM ESCAPE!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

CALL THE COAST GUARD! HAVE THEM COME TO THIS SPOT AND WAIT FOR WORD FROM ME.
BUT WHO ARE YOU?
THEY WILL RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PHANTOM. REMEMBER --"PHANTOM."
PHANTOM?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AFTER THE TOADMEN! IF THEY ESCAPE THIS TIME, WE MAY NEVER FIND THEM!
COPR. 1942, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.
BUT WHO ARE YOU?
I JUST TOLD YOU. THE PHANTOM.
WILSON McCOY 11-27
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
NO, FELLA. YOU STAY HERE. CAPTAIN, TAKE CARE OF MY DOG UNTIL I RETURN.
WAIT! YOU SAID YOU WERE THE PHANTOM. THAT MEANS NOTHING TO ME. WHO ARE YOU REALLY?
I'M ALSO THE 'MYSTERY MAN' OF CABIN 7, THE 'CRANK' WHO WARNED YOU ABOUT THE TOADMEN PIRATES. REMEMBER?
WILSON McCOY 11-28
HE SAID HE WAS THE PHANTOM! WHOEVER OR WHATEVER THAT IS.
HE SAID -TO TAKE CARE OF HIS DOG.
LOOKS MORE -- LIKE A WOLF --
AND THE PHANTOM SWIMS THRU THE DARK WATER, SURROUNDED BY THE ESCAPING TOADMEN PIRATES!
WILSON McCOY 11-29
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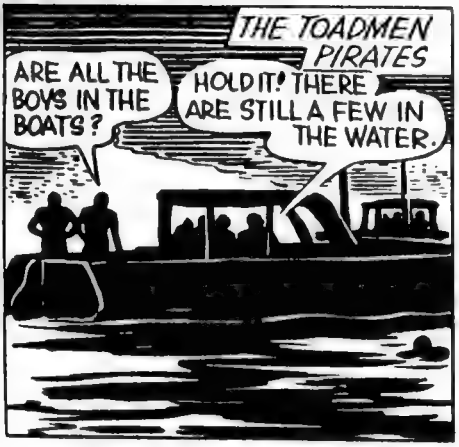

THE TOADMEN PIRATES
ARE ALL THE BOYS IN THE BOATS?
HOLD IT! THERE ARE STILL A FEW IN THE WATER.

I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW THEM ~ OR I MAY NEVER FIND THEM AGAIN. BUT HOW CAN I FOLLOW THE BOATS...?

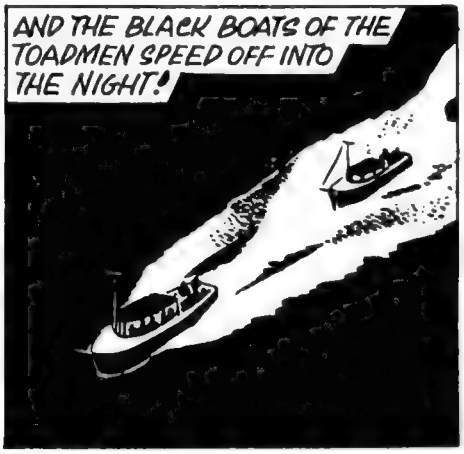
...UNLESS I GET IN ONE! THEIR OUTFITS ARE SIMILAR TO MINE. THEY WON'T SEE THE DIFFERENCE IN THE DARK...
WILSON McCOY 12-1

HURRY UP! INTO THE BOATS! OR DO YOU WANT US TO WAIT UNTIL THE COAST GUARD GETS HERE?
COPR. 1962, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

BBRR~THAT WATER WAS COLD!
THAT SHIP CREW WAS LAYIN' FOR US! WHO DO YOU SUPPOSE GAVE US AWAY?

I DUNNO. MAYBE THEY JUST SAW US COMIN'.
HOW COULD THEY, AT NIGHT? SOMEONE ON THAT SHIP WAS WAITING FOR US!

WHO COULD IT BE?
I DUNNO.
WILSON McCOY 12-2


AND THE BLACK BOATS OF THE TOADMEN SPEED OFF INTO THE NIGHT!

THERE THEY GO! FANTASTIC!
IF WE COULD ONLY FOLLOW THEM. WE'RE HELPLESS~

CAPTAIN, WHAT WAS ALL THE EXCITEMENT ABOUT?
THE WHISTLE AND LIGHTS~ AND THOSE BOATS?
NOTHING AT ALL.

KEEP THE MEN ON GUARD ALL NIGHT~JUST IN CASE THEY DECIDE TO COME BACK.
YES, SIR.
WILSON McCOY 12-3

LITTLE DO THEY KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN~IF IT WEREN'T FOR HIM! I WONDER WHO HE REALLY WAS!

SEND A MESSAGE TO THE COAST GUARD! EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED, AND ASK THEM TO SEND A CUTTER AT ONCE!

THEY THOUGHT I WAS CRAZY, AT FIRST, BUT THEY'RE SENDING A SHIP
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO INVESTIGATE-

THE MYSTERY MAN-THE PHANTOM-THE NAME'S FAMILIAR-SEEMS TO ME I REMEMBER IT FROM MY EARLY SEAFARING DAYS--

"SEA LEGENDS" MAY TELL US SOMETHING. HMM--HERE IT IS-PHANTOM-GHOST WHO WALKS--!
WILSON McCOY 12-4
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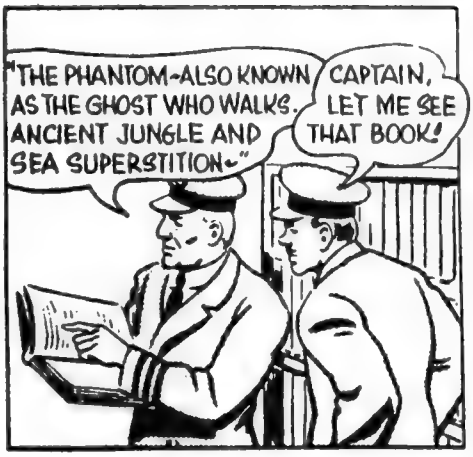
"THE PHANTOM-ALSO KNOWN AS THE GHOST WHO WALKS. ANCIENT JUNGLE AND SEA SUPERSTITION-"
CAPTAIN, LET ME SEE THAT BOOK!

"KNOWN TO ALL SEAFARERS AS ANCIENT NEMESIS OF PIRATES! SAID TO BE FOUR CENTURIES OLD-UNABLE TO BE KILLED--"

"POPULARLY SUPPOSED TO WEAR SKIN-TIGHT COSTUME, MASK, AND SKULL ORNAMENT ON BELT!"
THAT MAN WAS ON THIS SHIP!

AND THAT'S HIS DOG!
WILSON McCOY 12-5
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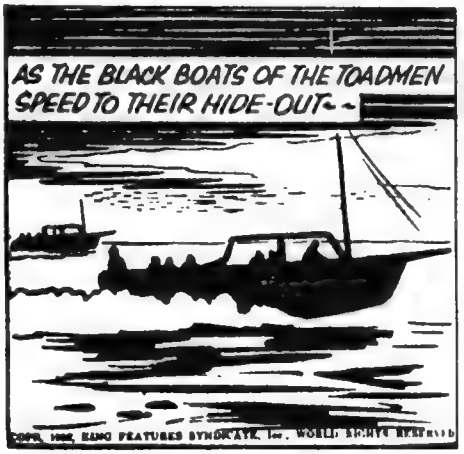
AS THE BLACK BOATS OF THE TOADMEN SPEED TO THEIR HIDE-OUT--
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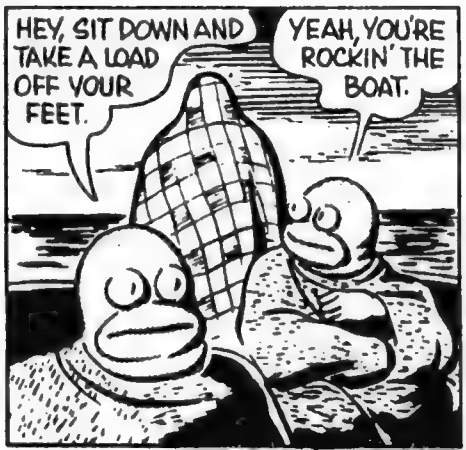
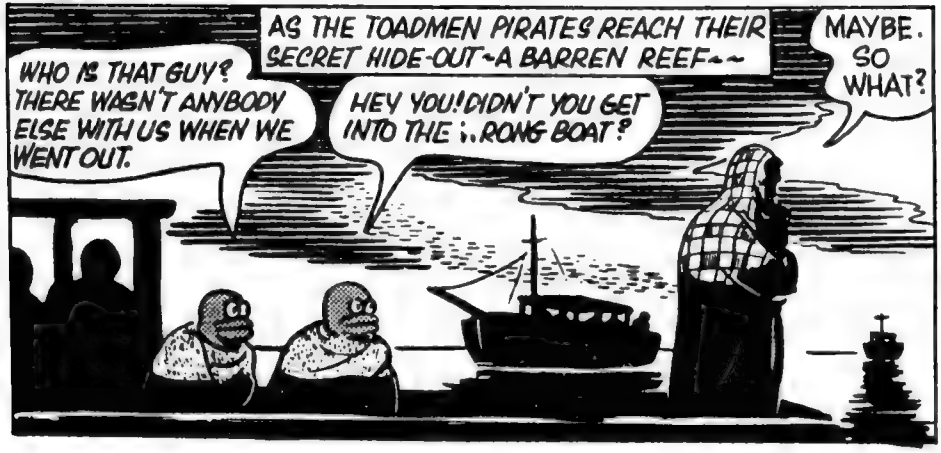
IT'LL BE DAWN SOON. THEN THEY'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THAT I'M NOT ONE OF THEM--

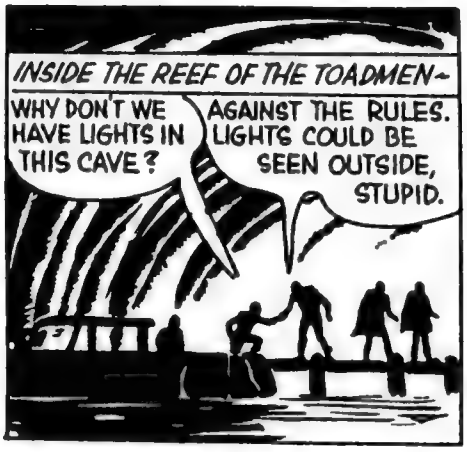

HEY, SIT DOWN AND TAKE A LOAD OFF YOUR FEET.
YEAH, YOU'RE ROCKIN' THE BOAT.

AS THEY APPROACH THE SECRET REEF-THE FIRST STREAKS OF DAWN--
WILSON McCOY 12-6


AS THE TOADMEN PIRATES REACH THEIR SECRET HIDE-OUT~A BARREN REEF~~
WHO IS THAT GUY? THERE WASN'T ANYBODY ELSE WITH US WHEN WE WENT OUT.
HEY YOU! DIDN'T YOU GET INTO THE LONG BOAT?
MAYBE. SO WHAT?

~~THEY'RE WONDERING ABOUT ME ~~THEY HAVEN'T HAD A GOOD LOOK AT ME YET~ I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING~FAST~~
WILSON McCOY 12-8

AT THIS MOMENT, THE PIRATE BOATS ENTER THE BLACK CAVE OF THE REEF.


INSIDE THE REEF OF THE TOADMEN~
WHY DON'T WE HAVE LIGHTS IN THIS CAVE?
AGAINST THE RULES. LIGHTS COULD BE SEEN OUTSIDE, STUPID.

MAN, THE CHIEF'LL BE SORE WHEN HE HEARS HOW THIS VESTA JOB FLOPPED.
WASN'T OUR FAULT.

THE PHANTOM MOVES QUICKLY AMONG THE TOADMEN.
HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOIN'

HIS FIST DARTS ABOUT, PRESSING GENTLY~AND EACH TIME LEAVES HIS MARK!
WILSON McCOY 12-9

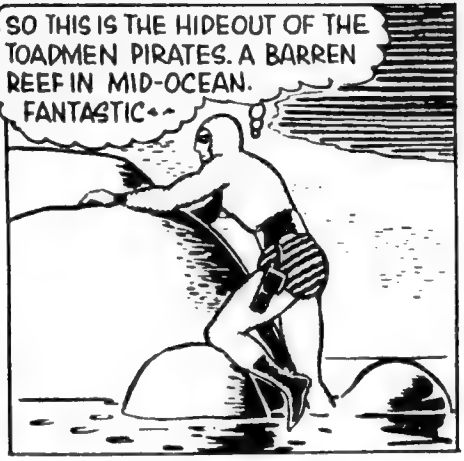
IN THE PITCH-BLACK CAVE~
WHAT'S HOLDING US UP IN THIS CAVE?
THEY HAVEN'T OPENED THE DOOR YET, STUPID.

~THE PHANTOM MOVES AMONG THE TOADMEN, GENTLY LEAVING HIS MARK!

COME ON, YOU GUYS! THE CHIEF IS WAITIN' TO HEAR YOUR ALIBIS ABOUT THE VESTA JOB! HE'S GOT PLENTY TO SAY!

AND THE PHANTOM SLIPS QUIETLY BACK INTO THE WATER OF THE CAVE!
WILSON McCOY 12-10

THE PHANTOM SWIMS OUT OF THE DARK CAVE INTO THE OPEN SEA-

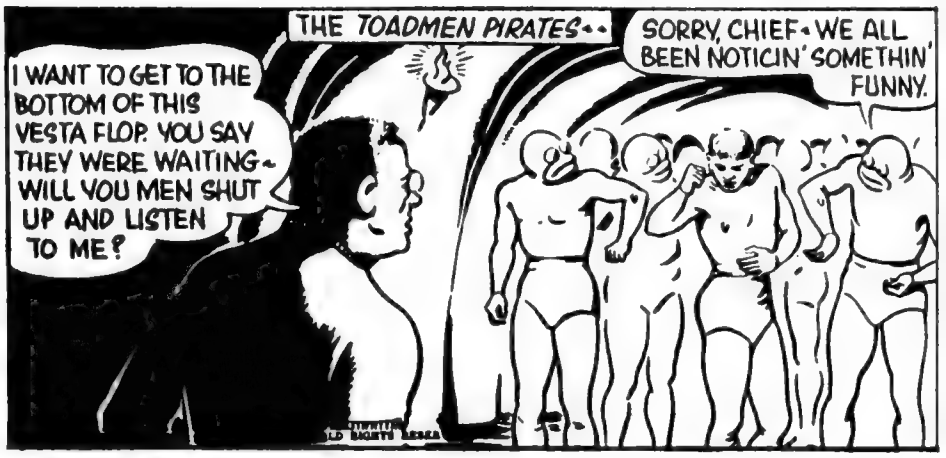

SO THIS IS THE HIDEOUT OF THE TOADMEN PIRATES. A BARREN REEF IN MID-OCEAN. FANTASTIC--

YOU COULD COME WITHIN TEN FEET OF THIS REEF AND NEVER SUSPECT A THING. THERE ARE CAVES AND TUNNELS INSIDE--
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

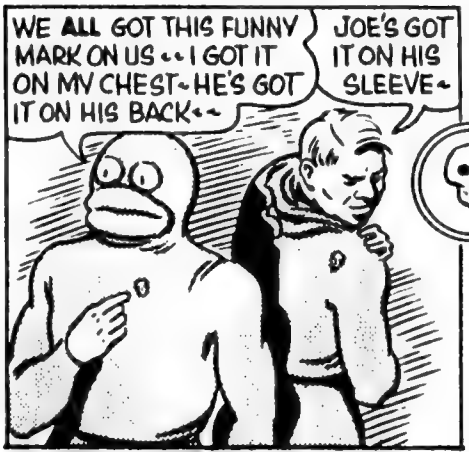
MUST BE FIFTY PIRATES HERE! I'VE FOUND THEM-A THOUSAND MILES FROM THE MAINLAND! WHAT DO I DO NOW?
WILSON McCOY 12-11
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

TAKE OFF THOSE BLASTED HOODS AND GOGGLES! NOW, WHY DID YOU MUFF THIS VESTA JOB?
MUFF IT? THEY WERE WAITING FOR US!
THEY TURNED LIGHTS ON US! THEY HAD GUNS!
WILSON McCOY 12-12
COPR. 1952, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

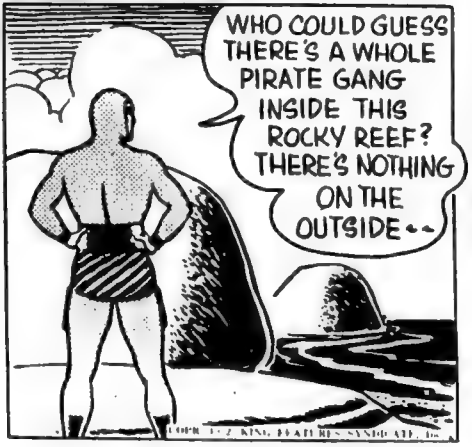
THEY WERE LUCKY NOT TO GET CAUGHT, CHIEF. THERE MUSTA BEEN A LEAK!
HOW? WHO COULD KNOW OUR PLANS EXCEPT US?

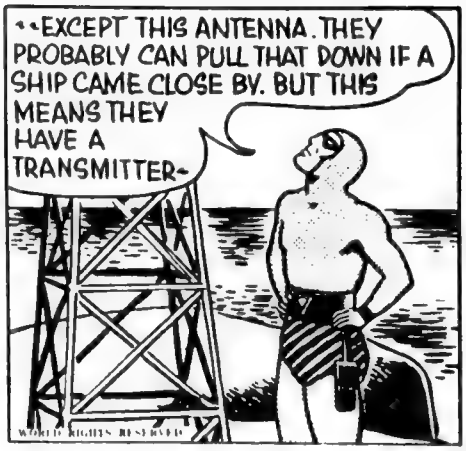

THE TOADMEN PIRATES--
I WANT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS VESTA FLOP. YOU SAY THEY WERE WAITING- WILL YOU MEN SHUT UP AND LISTEN TO ME?
SORRY, CHIEF- WE ALL BEEN NOTICIN' SOMETHIN' FUNNY.

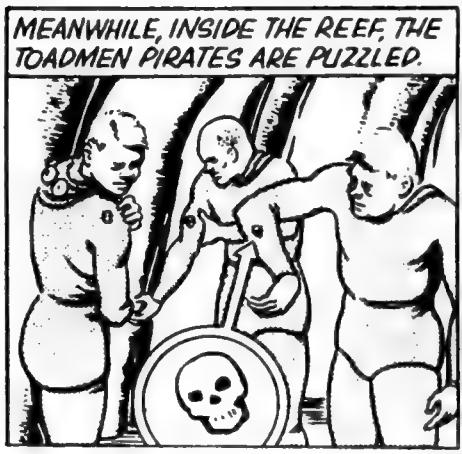
LOOK AT THAT MARK ON YOUR CHEST.
YEAH! YOU GOT IT, TOO. WHAT IS IT?


WE ALL GOT THIS FUNNY MARK ON US--I GOT IT ON MY CHEST- HE'S GOT IT ON HIS BACK--
JOE'S GOT IT ON HIS SLEEVE-

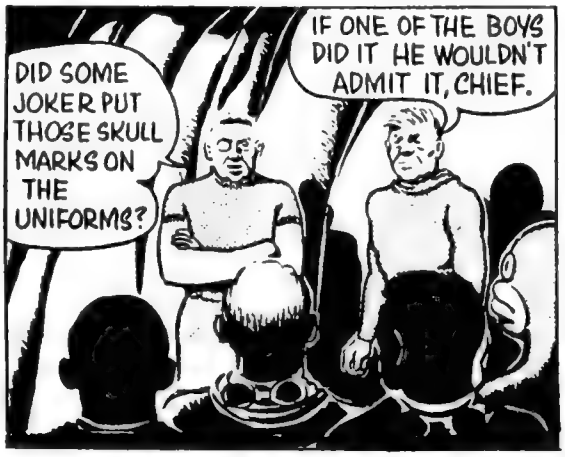
IT LOOKS LIKE-A DEATH'S HEAD! HOW'D WE--ALL GET IT?
WILSON McCOY 12-13


WHO COULD GUESS THERE'S A WHOLE PIRATE GANG INSIDE THIS ROCKY REEF? THERE'S NOTHING ON THE OUTSIDE--


--EXCEPT THIS ANTENNA. THEY PROBABLY CAN PULL THAT DOWN IF A SHIP CAME CLOSE BY. BUT THIS MEANS THEY HAVE A TRANSMITTER-


MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE REEF, THE TOADMEN PIRATES ARE PUZZLED.

CHIEF, ALL THE MEN WHO WENT OUT ON THAT VESTA JOB HAVE SKULL MARKS ON 'EM.
WHO DID IT?
WILSON McCOY 12-15


DID SOME JOKER PUT THOSE SKULL MARKS ON THE UNIFORMS?
IF ONE OF THE BOYS DID IT HE WOULDN'T ADMIT IT, CHIEF.

LISTEN, THIS IS SERIOUS! IF ONE OF YOU DID IT--AND CAN PROVE IT--I'LL PAY THAT MAN A THOUSAND DOLLARS!

HMM--A CRACK IN THE ROCKS. I CAN HEAR VOICES COMING OUT--
WILSON McCOY 12-16

GUESS NONE OF THE BOYS'LL ADMIT PUTTING THAT SKULL MARK ON THE UNIFORMS, CHIEF.
I SEE! FROM NOW ON, I WANT A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR GUARD ON THE ROCK OUTSIDE!
AW, CHIEF, WE'VE NEVER HAD TO KEEP A GUARD OUTSIDE.
WILSON McCOY 12-17
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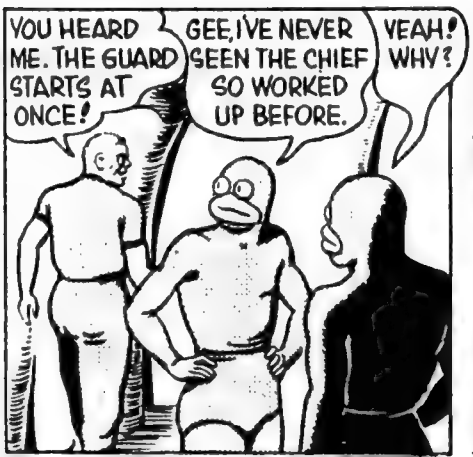
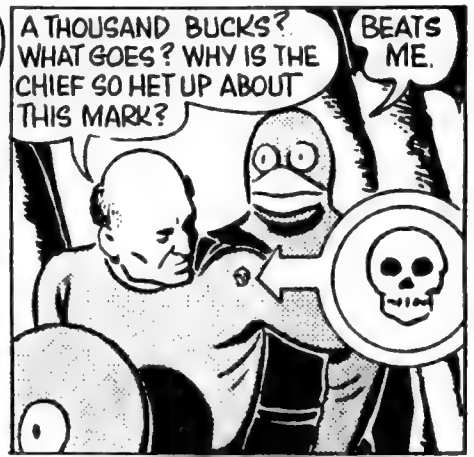

YOU HEARD ME. THE GUARD STARTS AT ONCE!
GEE, I'VE NEVER SEEN THE CHIEF SO WORKED UP BEFORE.
YEAH! WHY?

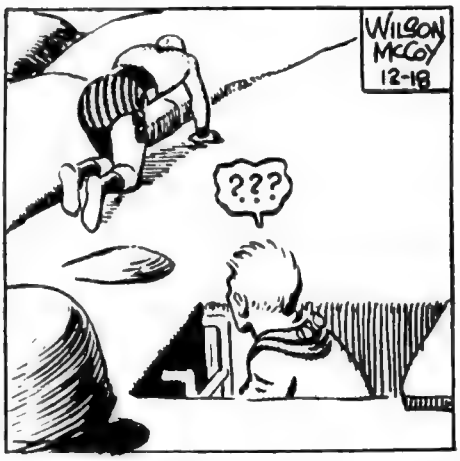

A THOUSAND BUCKS? WHAT GOES? WHY IS THE CHIEF SO HET UP ABOUT THIS MARK?
BEATS ME.

CHIEF, SOMEBODY'S PLAYED A JOKE. WHY BLOW YOUR TOP ABOUT A LITTLE THING LIKE THIS?
FOOL! THAT'S THE SIGN OF THE PHANTOM!

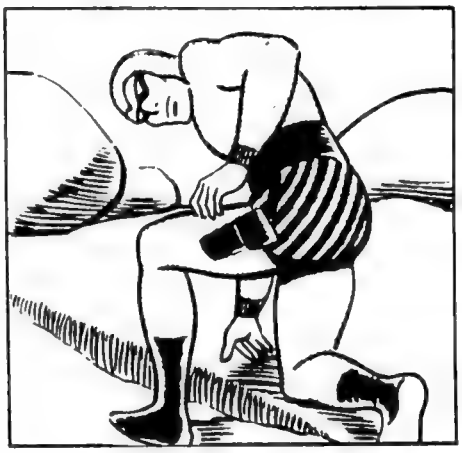
SIGN OF THE PHANTOM? NOW, CHIEF, THE PHANTOM AIN'T REAL. HE'S A SPOOK.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, MAC, UNTIL I SAW THAT MARK-

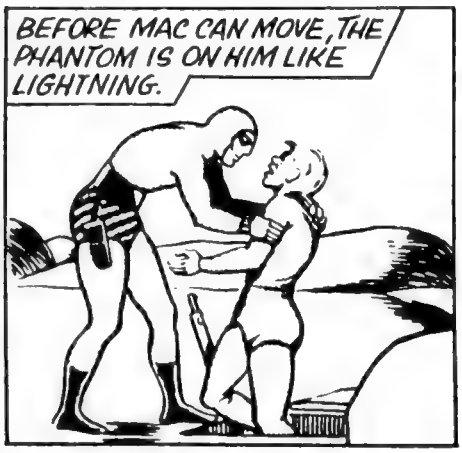
-FOR FOUR CENTURIES, THE PHANTOM'S BEEN THE NEMESIS OF PIRATES-HE CANNOT DIE-HE--
YUP-WELL, I'LL START MY GUARD DUTY--

THE CHIEF SURE IS CRACKED ON THIS "PHANTOM". HE MUST BE GETTIN' JUMPY--


WILSON McCOY 12-18
???

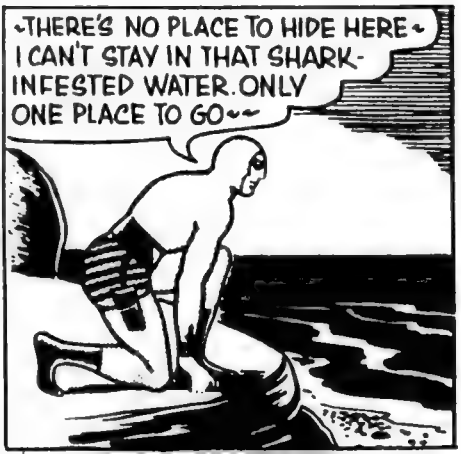
IS THAT ONE OF OUR BOYS? DOESN'T LOOK QUITE RIGHT--
HEY, YOU!




BEFORE MAC CAN MOVE, THE PHANTOM IS ON HIM LIKE LIGHTNING.

WILSON McCOY 12-19

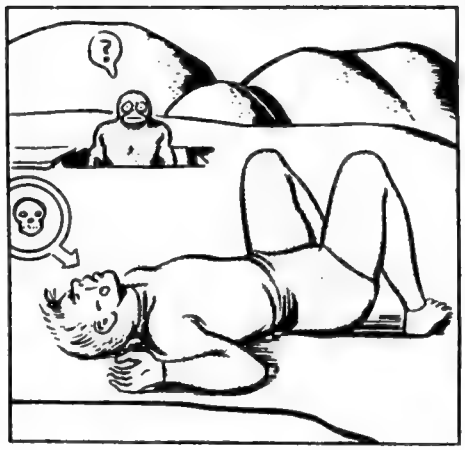
THAT WAS CLOSE. HE ALMOST SHOT ME IN THE BACK! THEY'LL BE MISSING HIM SOON-AND LOOKING FOR HIM--
COPR 1981, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.


-THERE'S NO PLACE TO HIDE HERE-I CAN'T STAY IN THAT SHARK-INFESTED WATER. ONLY ONE PLACE TO GO--

--DOWN HERE. OOPS---
WILSON McCOY 12-20

WHERE'S MAC? CHIEF WANTS HIM.
HE'S OUTSIDE, ON GUARD. I'LL GO UP AND GET HIM.

JOE, HURRY UP AND GET MAC. THE CHIEF WANTS HIM.
OKAY, OKAY.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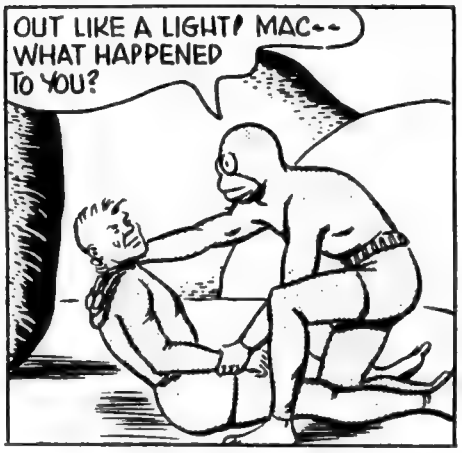

OUT LIKE A LIGHT! MAC-- WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

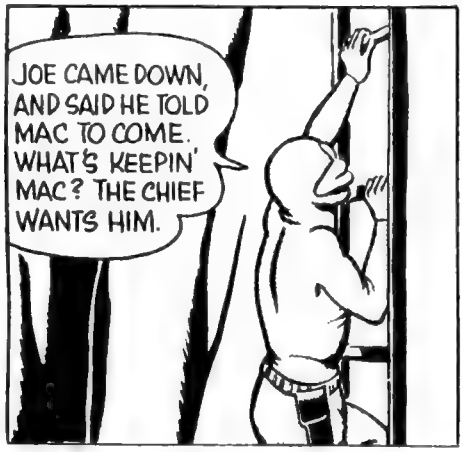
THIS
WILSON McCOY 12-22

I'LL BORROW THIS FELLOW'S SUIT. I'M ABOUT HIS SIZE.

IF I LOOK LIKE THE OTHERS I'LL HAVE MORE TIME TO OPERATE.
WILSON McCOY 12-23

JOE, DID YOU SEE MAC? DID YOU TELL HIM THE CHIEF WANTS TO SEE HIM?
YEP
SO I'M JOE.

IS HE COMING RIGHT DOWN?
YEP.
AS SOON AS HE WAKES UP.
PHANTOM


JOE CAME DOWN, AND SAID HE TOLD MAC TO COME. WHAT'S KEEPIN' MAC? THE CHIEF WANTS HIM.

JOE! MAC!

WILSON McCOY 12-24
!!!

CHIEF--(PANT-PANT)-JOE CAME BACK BUT IT WASN'T JOE-(PANT)-AND JOE AND MAC ARE KNOCKED OUT AND--
WHOA! WHAT'S ALL THIS?

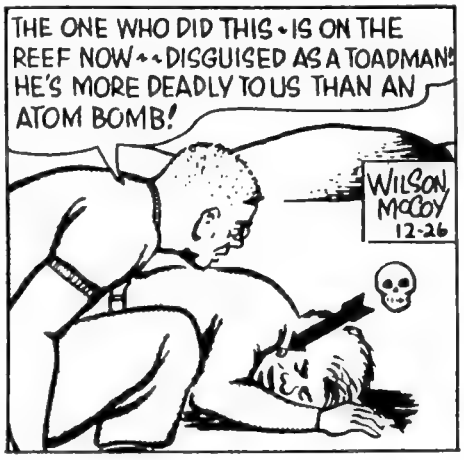
NOW, BO-- WHAT'S HAPPENED?
JOE WENT OUTSIDE TO TELL MAC YOU WANTED HIM-THEN JOE CAME BACK AND SAID HE TOLD HIM-

MAC DIDN'T COME-SO I WENT UP-THERE I SEE BOTH JOE AND MAC-KNOCKED OUT! WHO CAME BACK IN PLACE OF JOE?
WILSON McCOY 12-25

A SKULL MARK ON MAC'S JAW! THE PHANTOM!
WHOEVER DID IT IS WEARING JOE'S TOADMAN COSTUME--

ALL THE COSTUMES LOOK ALIKE. HE MIGHT BE ANYONE--INCLUDING YOU! PUT UP YOUR HANDS!
AW-CHIEF-IT'S ME-- BO--

SEE, CHIEF, IT'S ME, BO. NOT-- WHO DID YOU SAY?
NEVER MIND. DON'T SAY A WORD ABOUT THIS TO ANYONE YET.


THE ONE WHO DID THIS-IS ON THE REEF NOW--DISGUISED AS A TOADMAN! HE'S MORE DEADLY TO US THAN AN ATOM BOMB!
WILSON McCOY 12-26

CHEE-OUT COLD! MAC AND JOE-TOUGH GUYS-WHOEVER DID THIS MUST BE A POWERHOUSE--ONLY TOOK ONE PUNCH!
THE GHOST WHO WALKS-THE MAN WHO CANNOT DIE--THE ANCIENT NEMESIS OF PIRATES--HE'S HERE!

BO, CALL EVERYONE TOGETHER FOR A SPECIAL MEETING AT ONCE! SAY NOTHING ABOUT THIS.
GOT YOU, CHIEF!

THEN-I'LL MAKE EVERYONE REMOVE THE TOADMAN COSTUME AT ONCE-AND WE'LL FIND OUR MAN--IF HE IS A MAN--

CHIEF, WE'RE A THOUSAND MILES FROM SHORE. HOW COULD ANYONE GET ON THIS REEF WITHOUT US KNOWIN? HE COULDN'T SWIM --OR WALK--
THE GHOST WHO WALKS COULD.
GET GOING. WHEN MAC AND JOE COME TO, MAYBE THEY CAN TELL ME SOMETHING.
WILSON McCOY 12-27

THE UNDER-GROUND HIDE-OUT OF THE TOADMEN PIRATES!
WHAT'S UP, BO?
SPECIAL MEETING! NO ONE'S EXCUSED! TELL EVERYBODY YOU SEE. COME ON, ON THE DOUBLE, YOU GUYS.
AW, ANOTHER JOB? WE JUST GOT BACK FROM THE VESTA.
WILSON McCOY 12-29

SPECIAL MEETING-- FOR EVERYONE! THAT MEANS YOU TOO!
YUP.
PHANTOM

WHO DID ALL THIS?
THE OWNER OF THIS-ER-- DOG. HE CALLED HIMSELF --THE PHANTOM.

ABOARD THE S.S. VESTA-
THE COAST GUARD!
THEY'VE PUT OUT A BOAT.

I'M COMMANDER WHITE. WHAT'S THIS ABOUT AN ATTACK BY THE TOADMEN PIRATES, CAPTAIN?
I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT.

THE TOADMEN ATTACKED US HERE- A PASSENGER SCARED THEM OFF-- TOLD US TO WAIT FOR A MESSAGE FROM HIM- THEN JUMPED IN AFTER THEM--
WILSON McCOY 12-30

YOU MEAN WE'RE TO SIT HERE UNTIL WE GET SOME SORT OF MESSAGE FROM SOMEBODY CALLED THE PHANTOM?
FOR ALL WE KNOW, HE MAY BE DEAD BY NOW- BUT IT'S OUR ONLY LEAD TO THE TOADMEN PIRATES, COMMANDER.

SPECIAL MEETING- HURRY UP- WE'RE LATE!
I'M COMING.
PHANTOM

SPECIAL MEETING? MAYBE IT'S ABOUT ME. MY TIME'S RUNNING OUT- HAVE TO WORK FAST.
RADIO ROOM

BUT I'VE GOT A JOB TO DO FIRST- IF I HAVE TIME--
WILSON McCOY 12-31

HEY, YOU GUYS AREN'T ALLOWED IN HERE. BESIDES, YOU'RE ALL DUE AT A SPECIAL MEETING~
I KNOW. I HAVE ANOTHER MEETING, FIRST.
PHANTOM

WHICH OTHER MEETING? UH--
THIS ONE!

CALLING S.S. VESTA--PHANTOM-CALLING S.S. VESTA--
WILSON McCOY 1-1

EVERYONE IN, BO?
I DON'T KNOW, CHIEF. I'LL COUNT 'EM.

ANY MESSAGE FROM THAT SO-CALLED PHANTOM, CAPTAIN?
NOT YET, COMMANDER.

THIS HAS BEEN A WILD-GOOSE CHASE! WE CAN'T FOLLOW EVERY SILLY RUMOR ABOUT THE TOADMEN PIRATES. WE'RE LEAVING.

CAPTAIN! A MESSAGE FROM THE PHANTOM!
WILSON McCOY 1-2
RADIO ROOM
S.S. VESTA

COME IN, PHANTOM. THIS IS THE VESTA CAPTAIN. WHERE ARE YOU-AND THE TOADMEN--?
LISTEN--I CAN ONLY SAY THIS ONCE--

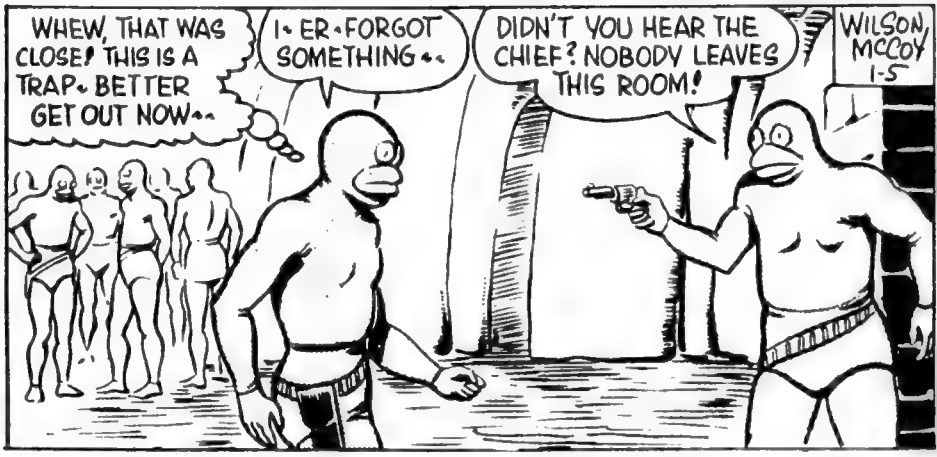
THAT'S THE LOCATION OF THE TOADMEN PIRATES' REEF--AS CLOSE AS I CAN GUESS. GOT IT?

DOG'S FINE! GOOD WORK! HANG ON!
WE'LL LEAVE AT ONCE!

EVERYONE'S HERE, CHIEF, EXCEPT TWO. ONE WOULD BE THE RADIO MAN--
HE'S EXCUSED~ SEE WHO'S MISSING~

HERE'S THE MISSING ONE. YOU'RE LATE, YOU! WHO ARE YOU? UNCOVER!
??
WILSON McCOY 1-3

YOU'RE THE LATE ONE! WHO ARE YOU? UNCOVER!
NEVER MIND THAT NOW, BO. COME HERE AND TAKE OVER.
PHANTOM


WHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE! THIS IS A TRAP. BETTER GET OUT NOW...
I. ER. FORGOT SOMETHING...
DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE CHIEF? NOBODY LEAVES THIS ROOM!
WILSON, McCOY 1-5

I'M GOING OUTSIDE FOR A MINUTE. NOBODY LEAVES THIS ROOM!

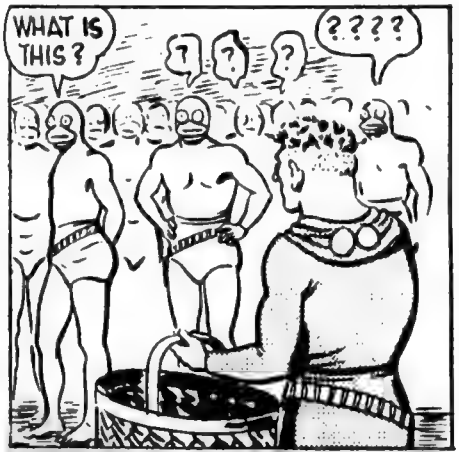
TIME YOU GUYS CAME TO! NOW. WHO SLUGGED YOU?
A MASKED GUY.
HE'S GOT A SKULL MARK. ON HIS JAW...

THE MASKED GUY MUSTA TOOK MY TOADMAN SUIT.
WOW. WHAT A SOCK!

THAT SETTLES IT! SKULL MARK... MASKED MAN. IT'S THE PHANTOM. AND HE'S HERE...

...IN THIS ROOM!
WILSON, McCOY 1-6

EVERY TOADMAN IS HERE OR ACCOUNTED FOR. NOW. EVERY ONE OF YOU TAKE OUT YOUR GUNS. BO, COLLECT 'EM!
?
?


WHAT IS THIS?
?
?
?
????

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT. YOU HEARD THE CHIEF. COME ON! YOU'LL GET 'EM BACK.

YOU TOO, PAL. THE CHIEF SAID EVERYBODY!
WILSON, McCOY 1-7
PHANTOM

GOT ALL THE GUNS?
YUP.. EVERY ONE IN THE ROOM, CHIEF.

I'LL MAKE SURE! EACH OF YOU GUYS FRISK THE GUY NEXT TO YOU..TO SEE IF HE'S GOT A HIDDEN GUN.
WILSON/ McCOY 1-8

WHAT GOES HERE? CHIEF OFF HIS ROCKER?
HE SAID FRISK, SO FRISK!

NOW.. EVERY ONE OF YOU WEARING A TOADMAN OUTFIT WILL TAKE IT OFF!
!!?
PHANTOM

HEAR ME? TAKE OFF THOSE OUTFITS!
CHIEF, WE GOT NO REASON NOT TO..
..WE DON'T LIKE BEIN' TREATED LIKE A BUNCH OF KIDS.
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

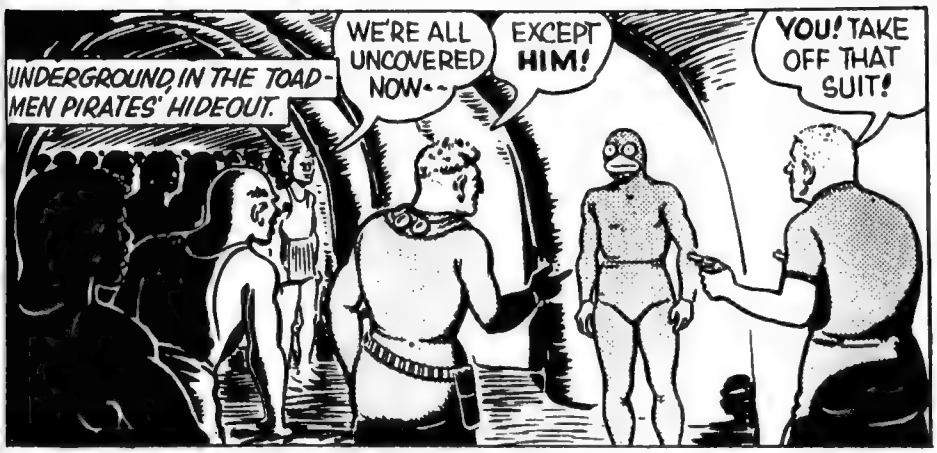
WE'RE PIRATES, RIGHT? FOR FOUR CENTURIES THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING CALLING HIMSELF THE PHANTOM.THE NEMESIS OF PIRATES..
WILSON/ McCOY 1-9

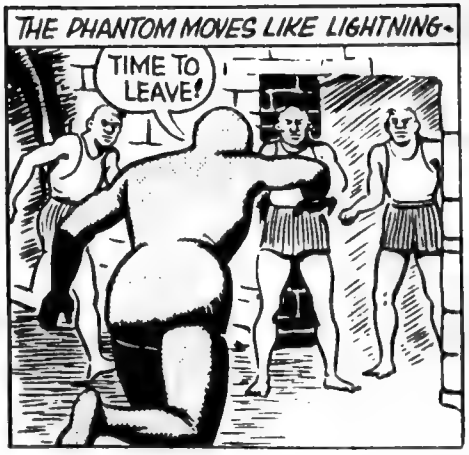
WHOEVER HE IS..WHATEVER HE IS.. HE'S OUR DEADLIEST ENEMY! AND HE'S IN THIS ROOM..WEARING A TOADMAN SUIT!
PHANTOM

AW.. MIGHT AS WELL UNCOVER.
"PHANTOM"— WHAT A YARN!

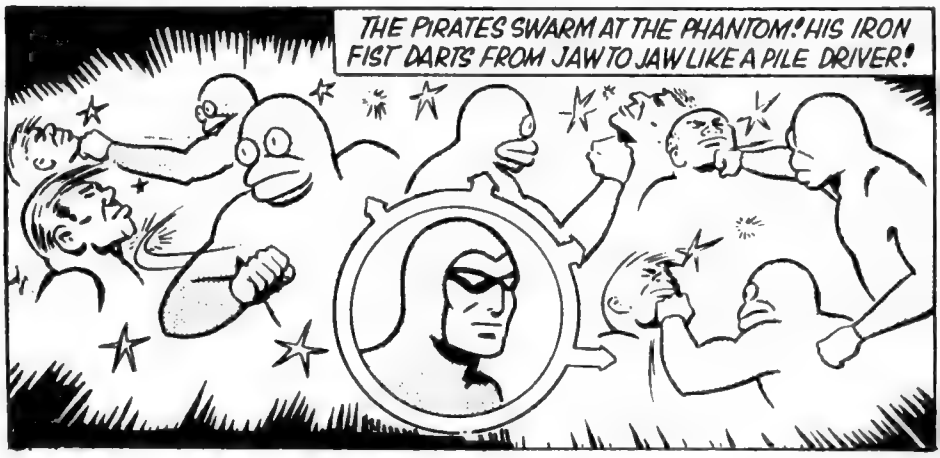
YEAH? YOU ALL CAME BACK FROM THE VESTA JOB WITH SKULL MARKS ON YOUR SUITS!
WILSON/ McCOY 1-10

WHY DO YOU THINK THE VESTA JOB FLOPPED? AND WHO SLUGGED MAC AND JOE AN HOUR AGO.HUH?
THEY'RE ALL UNCOVERED NOW.
..EXCEPT HIM!


UNDERGROUND, IN THE TOAD-MEN PIRATES' HIDEOUT.
WE'RE ALL UNCOVERED NOW--
EXCEPT HIM!
YOU! TAKE OFF THAT SUIT!


THE PHANTOM MOVES LIKE LIGHTNING-
TIME TO LEAVE!

THEY CATCH HIM AT THE DOOR--A WILD DOGFIGHT!
WILSON McCOY 1-12


THE PIRATES SWARM AT THE PHANTOM! HIS IRON FIST DARTS FROM JAW TO JAW LIKE A PILE DRIVER!

I CAN'T SHOOT HIM- I'LL HIT OUR OWN GUYS--
WOW--LOOK AT HIM! ONE AGAINST FIFTY!

BUT THE ODDS ARE TOO GREAT IN THE SMALL ROOM--
WILSON McCOY 1-13

THAT GUY'S FIST MUST BE MADE OF IRON--
MY JAW'LL NEVER BE THE SAME!

WHAT A MAN! HE ALMOST WRECKED THIS JOINT!
-AND US!
ALL OF YOU GET YOUR GUNS FROM THE TABLE!

NOW- STAND UP- AND TAKE OFF THAT SUIT!
WILSON McCOY 1-14

TAKE OFF THAT SUIT! YOU WON'T? OKAY~A COUPLE OF YOU RIP IT OFF OF HIM!
I'M NOT GOIN' IN RANGE OF THOSE FISTS! HE'LL KNOCK MY HEAD OFF!
ME NEITHER!

TAKE OFF THAT SUIT, YOURSELF, OR I'LL FILL YOU FULL OF LEAD! I'LL GIVE YOU THREE TO START! ONE~TWO~ HUH?

THE GHOST WHO WALKS!
WILSON McCOY 1-15

YOU ARE THE PHANTOM~THE GHOST WHO WALKS
MEN CALL ME BY MANY NAMES.

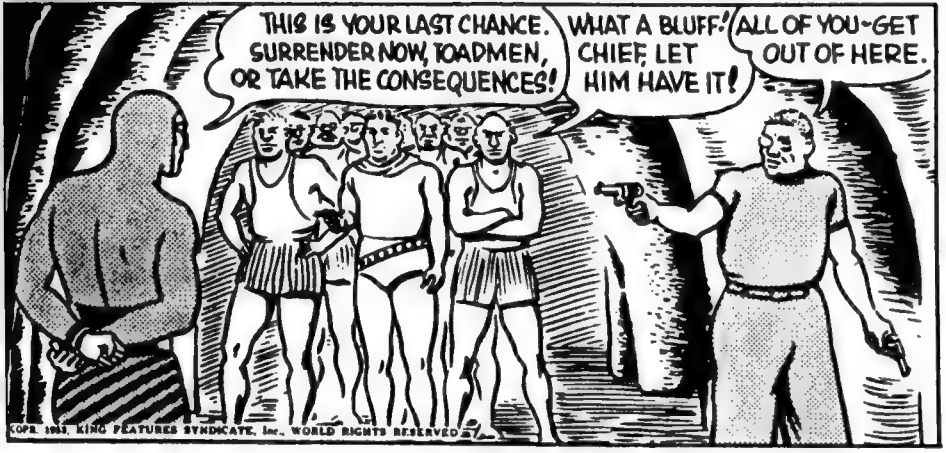
BO~TIE HIS HANDS~GOOD AND TIGHT!
OKAY~BUT KEEP YOUR GUNS ON HIM CHIEF~~

TOADMEN PIRATES, DROP YOUR GUNS. YOU ARE MY PRISONERS!
WELL~OF ALL THE~~!
FIFTY OF US WITH GUNS~~AND HIM WITH HIS HANDS TIED~~ AND HE SAYS~~MAN~~AIN'T THAT RICH?!~~
WILSON McCOY 1-16

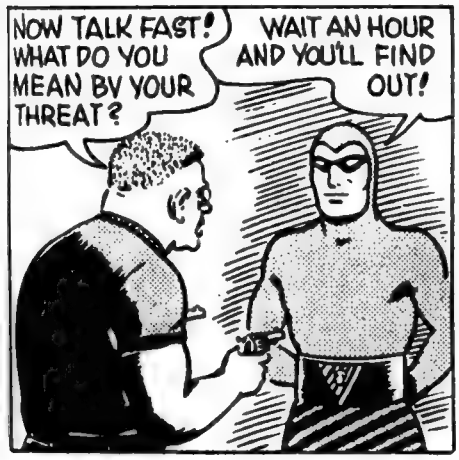
WHAT BRASS! I NEVER HEARD SUCH BLUFFIN' IN MY LIFE!
IS HE BLUFFING?

UNDERGROUND, IN THE TOADMEN PIRATES' HIDEOUT
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?~TELLS US TO GIVE UP!
US WITH GUNS, HIM TIED UP!
TAKE MY ADVICE YOU'LL ALL BE CAPTURED WITHIN AN HOUR.

BUT MANY OF YOU WILL BE KILLED OR WOUNDED. IT'S BETTER FOR YOU IF YOU SURRENDER TO ME NOW.
WILSON McCOY 1-17


THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE. SURRENDER NOW, TOADMEN, OR TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES!
WHAT A BLUFF! CHIEF, LET HIM HAVE IT!
ALL OF YOU-GET OUT OF HERE.
COPR. 1963, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

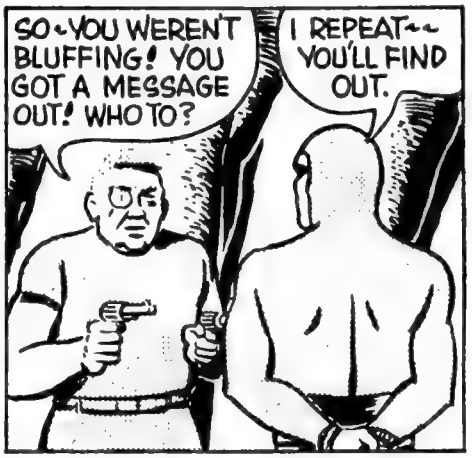
HE'S A NERVY ONE! WHY DON'T THE CHIEF JUST PLUG HIM?
THE CHIEF'LL HANDLE HIM! HE WANTS TO SEE WHAT HE KNOWS.
WILSON McCOY 1-19


NOW TALK FAST! WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY YOUR THREAT?
WAIT AN HOUR AND YOU'LL FIND OUT!

THAT PHANTOM-OR WHO-EVER HE IS-SURE TALKS BIG.
HEY-LOOK!
RADIO ROOM
COPR. 1963, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

KNOCKED OUT, COLD! SKULL MARK ON HIS JAW! THE PHANTOM WAS HERE!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

CHIEF, THE RADIO MAN'S KNOCKED OUT! HE DID IT! THAT MEANS HE MAY HAVE SENT OUT A RADIO MESSAGE!
WILSON McCOY 1-20


SO-YOU WEREN'T BLUFFING! YOU GOT A MESSAGE OUT! WHO TO?
I REPEAT-- YOU'LL FIND OUT.

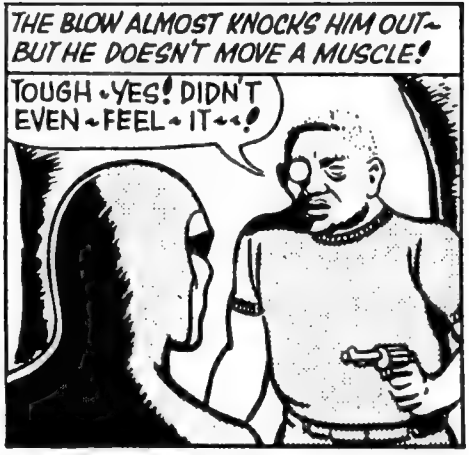
POST GUARDS TOPSIDE! PUT ON OUTFITS!

WHAT'S UP?
CHIEF MUSTA FOUND OUT SOMETHIN' FROM THAT GUY.

NOW-YOU DID SEND A RADIO MESSAGE! WHO TO? ANSWER ME!

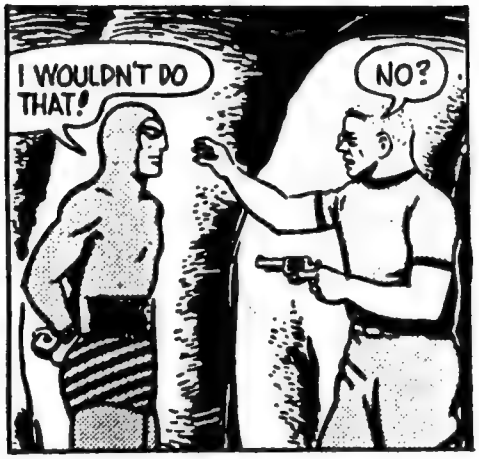
HUH! WON'T TALK! IRON MAN, EH? WE'LL SEE!
WILSON McCOY 1-21
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

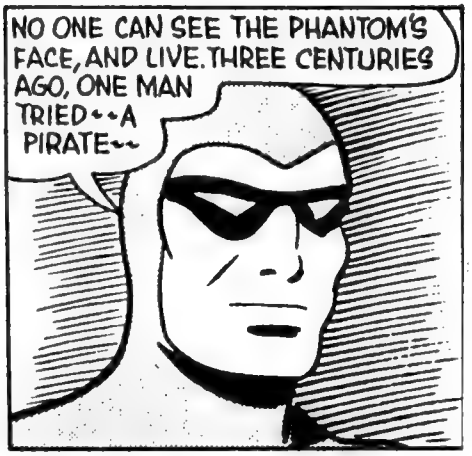
TOUGH, EH?
THE PHANTOM STIFFENS FOR THE BLOW--


THE BLOW ALMOST KNOCKS HIM OUT- BUT HE DOESN'T MOVE A MUSCLE!
TOUGH - YES! DIDN'T EVEN - FEEL - IT--!

THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU! I'M GOING TO - HAVE A LOOK AT YOU--
WILSON McCOY 1-22

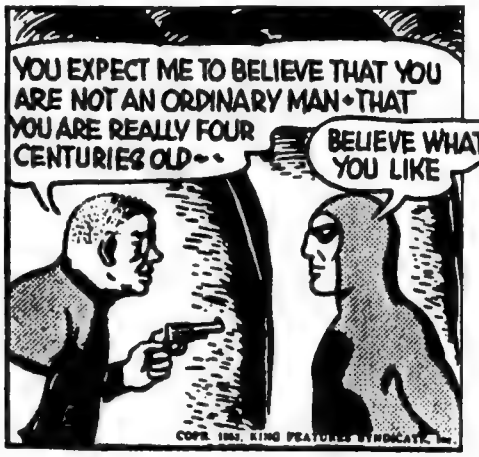
-I'M GOING TO TAKE OFF THAT MASK--AND REALLY SEE YOU!
BETTER NOT.


I WOULDN'T DO THAT!
NO?


NO ONE CAN SEE THE PHANTOM'S FACE, AND LIVE. THREE CENTURIES AGO, ONE MAN TRIED--A PIRATE--

-HE SAW IT- AND HE DROPPED DEAD.
DROPPED DEAD? WHAT NONSENSE!

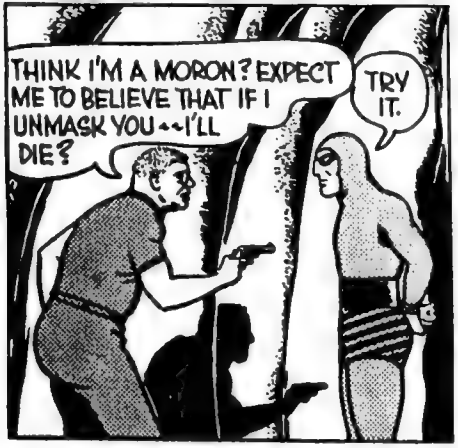
DON'T YOU BELIEVE ME? TRY IT!
WILSON McCOY 1-23


YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE NOT AN ORDINARY MAN - THAT YOU ARE REALLY FOUR CENTURIES OLD--
BELIEVE WHAT YOU LIKE

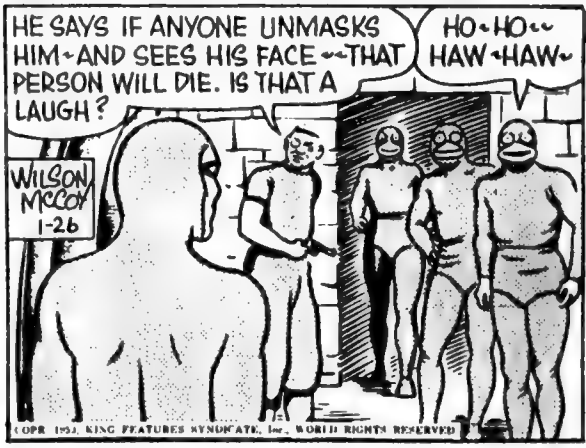
--THAT YOU CANNOT DIE - AND THAT IF I UNMASK YOU - I WILL DROP DEAD?
TRY IT!

I'VE GOT TO STALL FOR TIME UNTIL THE COAST GUARD GETS HERE. HE'S AS SUPERSTITIOUS AS A NATIVE--

I'M NOT AFRAID--I'LL UNMASK YOU! THEN-- I'LL KILL YOU!
WILSON McCOY 1-24


THINK I'M A MORON? EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT IF I UNMASK YOU--I'LL DIE?
TRY IT.

HEY, YOU GUYS, COME IN HERE!


HE SAYS IF ANYONE UNMASKS HIM-AND SEES HIS FACE--THAT PERSON WILL DIE. IS THAT A LAUGH?
HO-HO-- HAW-HAW-
WILSON McCOY 1-26
COPR. 1953, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HE'S SO CALM-SO POSITIVE ABOUT IT? IT'S BUNK-BUT I CAN'T DO THIS ALONE-I'LL CALL IN SOME OF THE BOYS--

UNDERGROUND, IN THE TOADMEN PIRATES' HIDE-OUT-
HOHO-HE SAYS IF ANYONE SEES HIS FACE-THEY'LL DIE-- HA-HA-
IT'S BUNK. CALL HIS BLUFF, CHIEF!
THAT'S WHAT I THINK. YOU UNMASK HIM.
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UH-WHY SHOULD I DO IT? NOT ME!
THEN, YOU.
WHY PICK ME OUT, CHIEF?
WILSON McCOY 1-27

I'M NO FALL GUY.
YOU GUYS SCARED? YOU BELIEVE THIS BUNK?
NAW! BUT-BUT YOU DO IT, CHIEF.

?!!

COWARDS! SUPERSTITIOUS FOOLS! YOU WON'T DIE IF YOU SEE HIS FACE! TAKE OFF HIS MASK!
NOT ME. I DON'T HAFTA.
IF IT'S ALL BUNK-- YOU DO IT, CHIEF.
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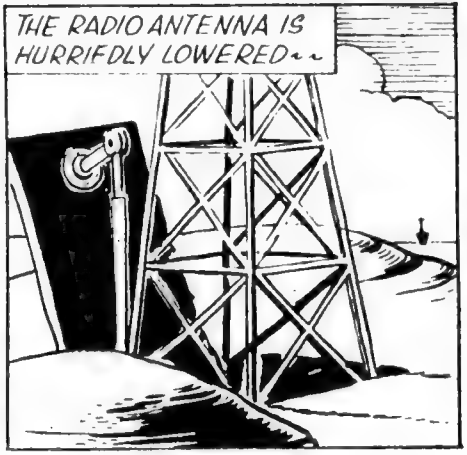
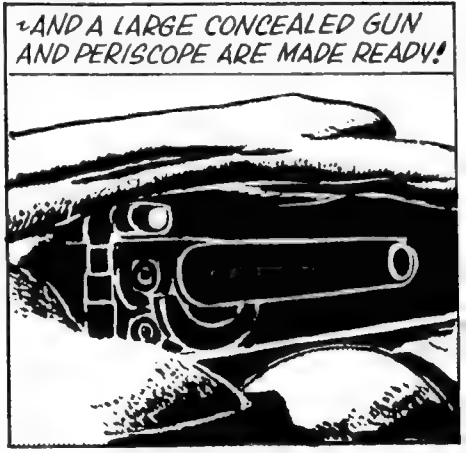
A DESTROYER! COMIN' THIS WAY! TELL THE CHIEF!
WILSON McCOY 1-28

A DESTROYER! SO THAT'S WHAT HE RADIOED! QUICK! PLAN A!


THE RADIO ANTENNA IS HURRIEDLY LOWERED...


...AND A LARGE CONCEALED GUN AND PERISCOPE ARE MADE READY!

IS THAT THE PLACE?
MUST BE. LET'S GET IN CLOSER AND SEE.
WILSON McCOY 1-29

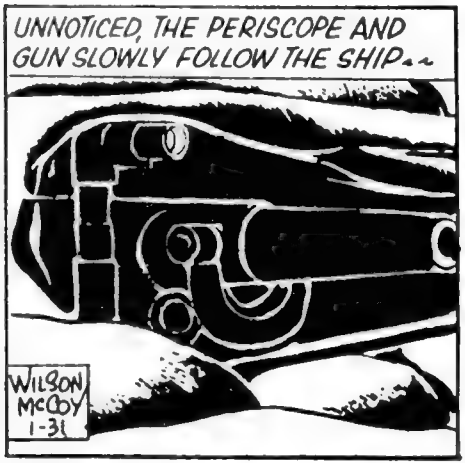
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE PLACE?
IT'S THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION GIVEN IN THE RADIO MESSAGE, SIR.

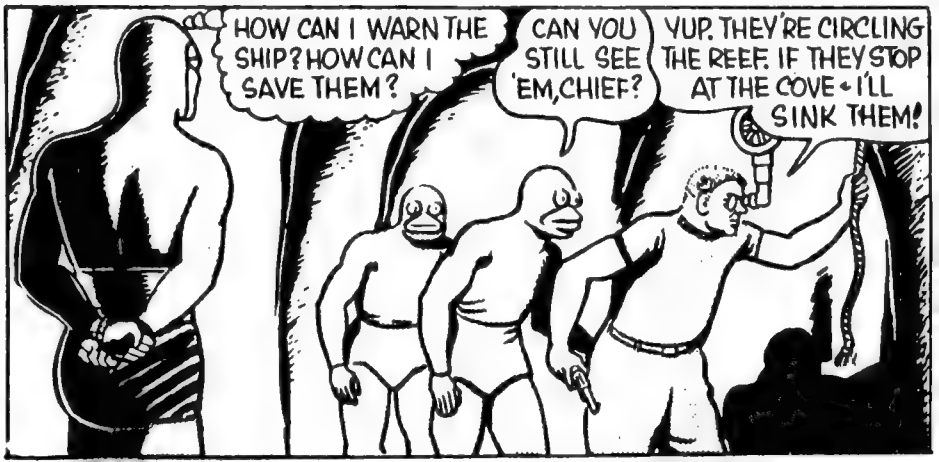
IT'S ONLY A BARREN REEF.
THE TOADMEN PIRATES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE, SIR. I RECOMMEND WE EXAMINE IT.

ON THE REEF, THE BIG GUN IS READY. THE PERISCOPE EYE WATCHES.
WILSON McCOY 1-30

SEE 'EM, CHIEF?
YUP! IF THEY LAND, I'LL PULL THIS LANYARD. AND BLOW THAT SHIP OUT OF THE WATER!

THAT REEF'S COMPLETELY BARREN! IT COULDN'T HIDE ONE PIRATE, MUCH LESS FIFTY. AND THEIR BOATS...
LET'S CIRCLE IT.


UNNOTICED, THE PERISCOPE AND GUN SLOWLY FOLLOW THE SHIP...
WILSON McCOY 1-31


HOW CAN I WARN THE SHIP? HOW CAN I SAVE THEM?
CAN YOU STILL SEE 'EM, CHIEF?
YUP. THEY'RE CIRCLING THE REEF. IF THEY STOP AT THE COVE. I'LL SINK THEM!

THIS WAS A BUM STEER - NO PIRATES, NOTHING ON THE REEF.
THE WHOLE THING SOUNDED PHONY.

LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE OTHER ISLANDS.
WILSON McCOY 2-2

BELIEVING THE REEF IS BARREN, THE DESTROYER LEAVES...

AND UNDER-GROUND, IN THE REEF...
THEY'VE GIVEN UP! THEY'RE GOING AWAY!
MAN - THAT WAS CLOSE!
HIP-HIP-HURRAH!
GOING AWAY? OH - NO!
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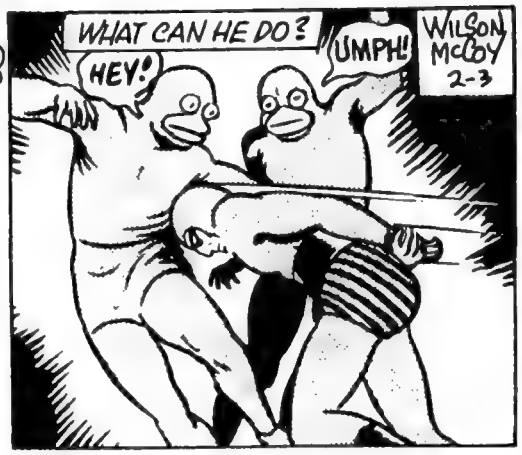
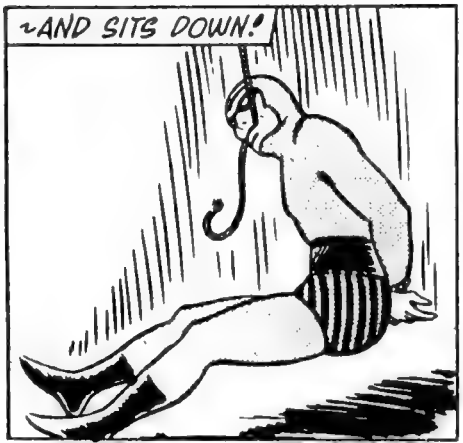
THEY'RE STEAMIN' OFF! IT'S ALL OVER! NEVER DREAMED WE WERE HERE. NOW I WON'T HAVE TO FIRE!

I CAN'T LET THAT SHIP LEAVE! NO ONE'LL EVER EXAMINE THIS REEF AGAIN - THE TOADMEN WILL GO ON AND ON...


WHAT CAN HE DO?
HEY!
UMPH!
WILSON McCOY 2-3

FORGOTTEN BY THE TOADMEN, THE PHANTOM SUDDENLY DASHES AT THE PERISCOPE...

-GRASPS THE GUN LANYARD IN HIS TEETH...


-AND SITS DOWN!

WILSON McCOY 2-4
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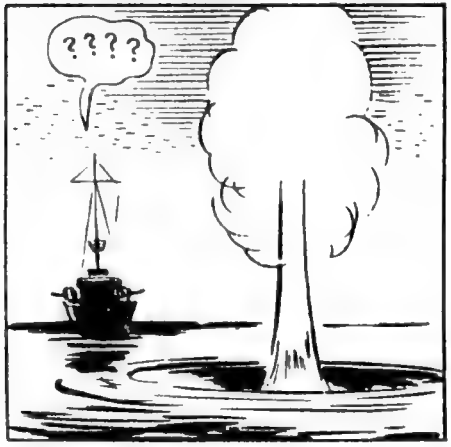
AS THE DESTROYER IS LEAVING, THE PHANTOM REACHES THE GUN LANYARD, FIRES IT WITH HIS TEETH--AND WARNS THE SHIP!


????

A SHELL-FROM THE REEF! THERE IS SOMEONE ON IT!
OR IN IT! LAUNCH LANDING PARTIES AT ONCE IN SMALL BOATS! FULL GEAR!

YOU!!
WILSON McCOY 2-5

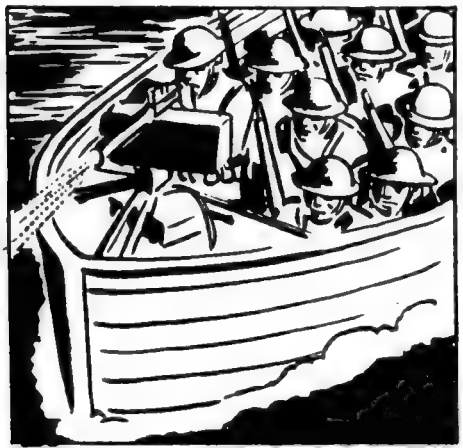
A LANDING PARTY FROM THE SHIP APPROACHES THE REEF OF THE TOADMEN PIRATES--

BOATS! MARINES! THEY'RE ATTACKING!
WILSON McCOY 2-6

UNDERGROUND, THE TOADMEN SPRING INTO ACTION!
TO YOUR POSTS! FIGHT 'EM OFF! SHOOT TO KILL!

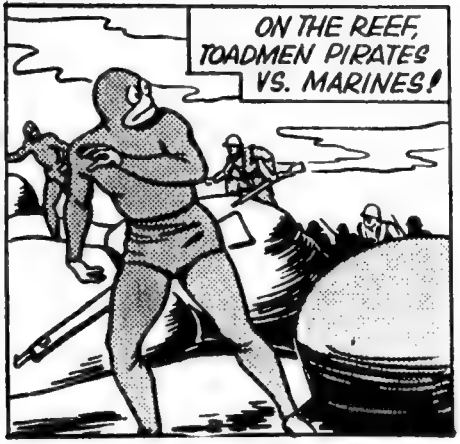
YOU--JINX--NEMESIS! YOU DID IT ALL! BUT WE'RE NOT LICKED YET!

THE BATTLE IS ON--TOADMEN PIRATES AGAINST MARINES!



WILSON McCOY 2-7

THEY'LL NEVER GET ME ALIVE! YOU EITHER!

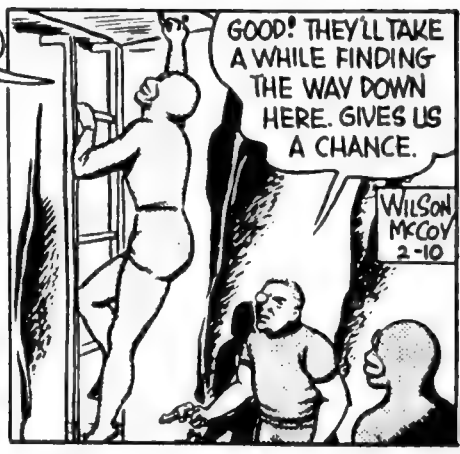

ON THE REEF, TOADMEN PIRATES VS. MARINES!

WHAT KINDA CRAZY GUYS ARE THESE?
UH~
WILSON MCCOY 2-9

HUH~THEY'RE JUST PLAIN GUYS~~
COME ON! THERE'S LOTS MORE OF 'EM!

CHIEF~THEY'RE MOPPIN' US UP~ WE AIN'T GOT A CHANCE!
FOOL~SHUT THAT TRAP DOOR.

THERE! THAT CLOSES THE TRAP DOOR!
BANG


GOOD! THEY'LL TAKE A WHILE FINDING THE WAY DOWN HERE. GIVES US A CHANCE.
WILSON MCCOY 2-10

GIVES US A CHANCE FOR WHAT? THE MARINES GOT MOST OF US ALREADY!
A CHANCE TO ESCAPE, FOOL!

I'VE GOT A SMALL BOAT HIDDEN IN THE NORTH COVE! ROOM ENOUGH FOR JUST US!
WOW! LET'S TAKE OFF!

I KEPT THIS MONEY HID FOR A TIME LIKE THIS! BIG BILLS, TOO!
COME ON, CHIEF! LET'S GO!

THE DESTROYER'S AT THE OTHER END OF THE ISLAND. WE CAN TAKE OFF IN OUR BOAT AND HIDE AT THE NEXT REEF~

CHIEF, WHAT YOU STOPPIN' FOR?
I ALMOST FORGOT SOMETHIN'~UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

BEFORE I GO, I WANT TO LOOK AT HIS FACE!
WILSON MCCOY 2-11

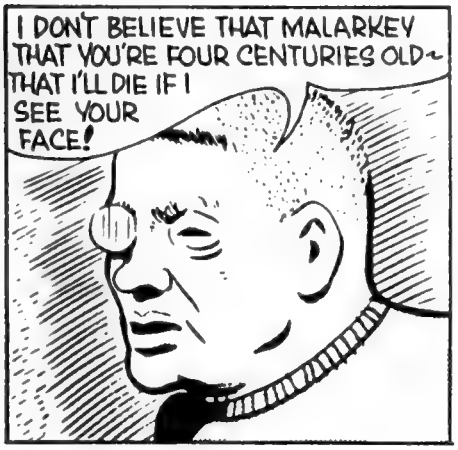
CHIEF-WE GOT NO TIME TO LOOK AT HIS FACE. THE MARINES ARE ON TOP OF US.
BESIDES, REMEMBER WHAT HE SAID? ANYBODY WHO SEES HIS FACE, DIES!
I REMEMBER! THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO TEST!
WILSON McCOY 2-12

MAYBE IT'S TRUE! WHY TAKE A CHANCE?
AW-IT'S RUBBISH-BUT WE GOT NO TIME!
I'VE GOT TIME FOR THIS.

I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE PHANTOM AND THE CURSE-ALL MY LIFE! I'M GOING TO LOOK AT HIS FACE-THEN KILL HIM!

WAKE UP, YOU! CAN YOU HEAR ME PHANTOM?
UH?

YOU RUINED US! YOU SPOILED THE VESTA JOB-YOU BROUGHT THEM HERE! YOU'RE A HOODOO, ALL RIGHT-A JINX!


I DON'T BELIEVE THAT MALARKEY THAT YOU'RE FOUR CENTURIES OLD-THAT I'LL DIE IF I SEE YOUR FACE!

I'M GOING TO RIP THAT MASK OFF YOUR FACE AND HAVE A GOOD LOOK AT YOU, MISTER PHANTOM! AND THEN-!
WILSON McCOY 2-13

OUR BOYS ARE BEATING THE TOADMEN. BUT WHERE'S THE HIDE-OUT?
I WONDERED, TOO. NOTHING ON THE REEF BUT ROCK.

TELL THE BOYS TO LOOK FOR AN UNDERGROUND ENTRANCE. THERE MAY BE MORE TOADMEN HIDING BELOW.
OK, CHIEF.
WILSON McCOY 2-14

CHIEF, THEY'LL FIND US DOWN HERE! LET'S GO!
WAIT DOWN THE CORRIDOR FOR ME-I'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE--
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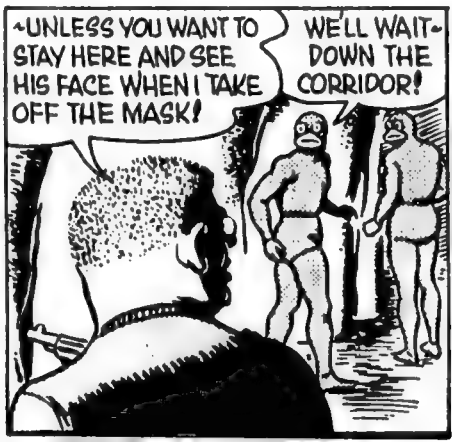
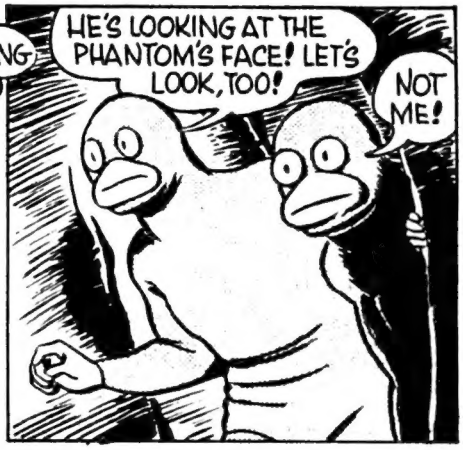

-UNLESS YOU WANT TO STAY HERE AND SEE HIS FACE WHEN I TAKE OFF THE MASK!
WE'LL WAIT-DOWN THE CORRIDOR!

YOU RUINED US, BUT I'LL FINISH YOU!
THE CHIEF'S TRYING TO WORK UP ENOUGH NERVE TO PULL OFF THE MASK!
IT'S BUNK! HOW COULD ANYONE DIE, JUST BY SEEING A FACE?

SO--NO ONE'S SEEN YOUR FACE IN 200 YEARS, EH? AND THAT ONE DIED, EH? RUBBISH!--I'M GOING TO LOOK AT YOU--

--NOW!
WILSON McCOY 2-16

I'M SEEING YOUR FACE! IT'S NOT KILLING ME, IS IT? YOU'RE A PHONY!


HE'S LOOKING AT THE PHANTOM'S FACE! LET'S LOOK, TOO!
NOT ME!

OKAY, CHIEF. YOU DID IT! NOW-- LET'S GO!
NOT YET-- NOT YET--!

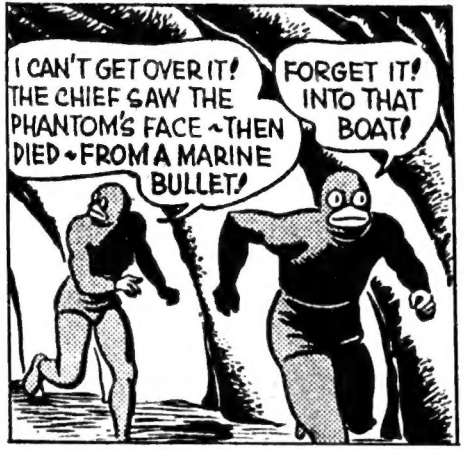
DIDN'T THINK I HAD THE NERVE TO DO IT! I'M STILL ALIVE--AND I'M WAITING! WHEN DOES THIS VOODOO OF YOURS START?
WILSON McCOY 2-17

I'VE SEEN YOUR FACE! I'M STILL ALIVE! THAT'S THAT! NOW-I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!
WILSON McCOY 2-18

THE MARINES MOP UP THE TOADMEN-THE FIGHT IS OVER!
GUESS WE GOT 'EM ALL! WHAT A CRAZY-LOOKIN' BUNCH!
CAPTAIN SAYS TO LOOK FOR UNDERGROUND ENTRANCES. MAY BE MORE HIDIN' SOME PLACE.

WHILE I WAS FIGHTIN', I SAW A COUPLE OF 'EM GO OUT OF SIGHT THERE. MUST BE A TRAP DOOR--

CHIEF~SHOOT HIM~GET IT OVER WITH~AND LET'S GO!
I AM! RIGHT NOW!
WILSON McCOY 2-19
HERE IT IS! THE TRAP DOOR!
HUH~CLEVER CAMOUFLAGE! CAREFUL~MAY BE SOME OF 'EM DOWN THERE~~
WILSON McCOY 2-20
UHH~~
HE GOT THE CHIEF~HE'S DEAD~~
QUICK~TO THAT BOAT IN THE COVE!
HEY~THE CHIEF SAW THE PHANTOM'S FACE AND DIED~~
JUST LIKE THE PHANTOM SAID~BRR~IT'S COLD DOWN HERE~
I SAW TWO MORE OF 'EM RUN THAT WAY.
THE PHANTOM LIES UNNOTICED AS THE MARINES RUSH BY~
QUICKLY HE CUTS HIS ROPES ON A SHARP ROCK BY THE CORRIDOR WALL~
STRANGE~ABOUT THAT ANCIENT CURSE~'HE WHO SEES THE PHANTOM'S FACE WILL DIE'~~IT ALWAYS SEEMS TO WORK~~
WILSON McCOY 2-21
I'VE GOT TO CATCH THOSE TWO WHO GOT AWAY~OR THEY'LL START THIS TOADMAN OUTFIT ALL OVER AGAIN!


I CAN'T GET OVER IT! THE CHIEF SAW THE PHANTOM'S FACE ~ THEN DIED ~ FROM A MARINE BULLET!
FORGET IT! INTO THAT BOAT!

WE CAN REACH THE NEXT REEF AND HIDE TILL THE DESTROYER'S GONE!
LET'S JUST KEEP GOIN'~

~AND PUT MILES BETWEEN US AND THAT PHANTOM!
AW, HE'S STILL TIED UP UNDERGROUND! DON'T WORRY~.

~ABOUT HIM.
WILSON McCOY 2-23
HEY!

TURN THIS BOAT BACK!
YES~SIR! DON'T HIT ME ~ YOU WIN! AND DON'T SHOW ME YOUR FACE! I DON'T WANNA SEE IT!
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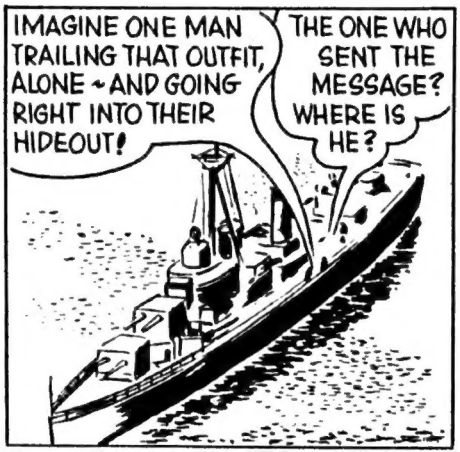
WILSON McCOY 2-24
EASY, BOYS. I'M ON YOUR SIDE.

WHAT GOES HERE? THESE GUYS ARE TREMBLING~~ SCARED TO DEATH!
THEY'VE HAD A HARD DAY.

TELL THEM TO TAKE OFF THOSE SILLY HOODS!

SO THESE ARE THE TOADMEN PIRATES. TOUGH CROWD!
THEY GAVE OUR BOYS A FIGHT.


IMAGINE ONE MAN TRAILING THAT OUTFIT, ALONE ~ AND GOING RIGHT INTO THEIR HIDEOUT!
THE ONE WHO SENT THE MESSAGE? WHERE IS HE?

HERE I AM~~ MIND IF I COME UP?
WILSON McCOY 2-25

THAT GUN COULD HAVE BLOWN US OUT OF THE WATER!
THE REEF IS FULLY EQUIPPED WITH A TRANSMITTER AND QUARTERS BELOW.
THE TOADMEN CONVERTED THESE NATURAL CAVES FOR THEIR HIDE-OUT.
WE'D BETTER GET BACK. I'VE GOT TO FILE A REPORT.
THERE HE IS.
THE CHIEF SAW HIS FACE AND DIED..
DON'T LOOK AT HIM.
WILSON McCOY 2-26
THOSE TOUGH PIRATES ARE SCARED TO DEATH OF HIM! WHO IS HE?
I ASKED HIM, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY.
BACK ON THE S.S. VESTA
DEVIL, OL' FELLA, THINK I WASN'T COMING BACK? HELLO, CAPTAIN.
I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
SIR, THE OFFICERS OF THE DESTROYER AND THE VESTA WISH TO HONOR YOU WITH A DINNER..
THAT'S VERY KIND, BUT I MUST GO.
WILSON McCOY 2-27
A PLANE WILL TAKE YOU BACK, BUT YOU MUST LET US THANK YOU.
YOU CLEARED THE SEAS OF THE TOADMEN. WHO ARE YOU?
PHANTOM. GHOST WHO WALKS. WHO OR WHAT IS HE .. REALLY?
HE STILL DIDN'T SAY.
IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE SHOUTING. THE TOADMEN WILL BE QUICKLY FORGOTTEN
TOADMEN PIRATE GANG CAPTURED. HIDEOUT FOUND
Mystery man Aids in Battle on Barren Reef.
..BUT THE TOADMEN IN JAIL CANNOT FORGET..
THE PHANTOM?
I WARNED THE CHIEF NOT TO LOOK AT HIS FACE..
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
..THE STORY SPREADS OVER THE SEVEN SEAS..
THE TOADMAN CHIEF TOOK OFF THE MASK. SAW HIS FACE. AND DIED. IT'S A FACT!
..AND THE LEGEND GROWS. THE NEMESIS OF EVILDOERS. THE GHOST WHO WALKS. THE PHANTOM!
WILSON McCOY 2-28